

الجمعة 24 يونيو 1988

Bank tip-offs disclose widespread drug trafficking



Mr Barry Price: Banks are an invaluable source of intelligence.

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Widespread trafficking in drugs is being investigated as a result of tip-offs from banks and other financial institutions.

They have given the National Drugs Intelligence Unit details of about 500 transactions which have aroused their suspicions since new powers under the Drug Trafficking Offences Act came into force on January 1 last year.

Mr Barry Price, National Drugs Intelligence Co-ordinator, said yesterday: "These disclosures have identified major trafficking in areas where we had not had previous indication."

He said seemingly ordinary business people who had escaped other detection nets had been

identified. He told a Home Office drugs seminar in London that he could think of few cases where the disclosure had been totally innocent.

Mr Price said banks were proving an invaluable source of intelligence. "Bank managers are probably among the best informed people in the community. They see things going on and sometimes don't like what they see."

"The vast majority of organizations are more than anxious to ensure that they are not the repository of ill-gotten gains."

There were some misgivings about a threat to confidentiality when the legislation was first mooted. However, Mr Price told the seminar that banks or institutions which became suspicious

had previously passed the information through its chain of command for scrutiny.

Where the information was about a known drugs dealer already being targeted, it was passed to the operational unit of the police or Customs Office concerned. Otherwise, it was given to the most appropriate unit. The dealers ranged typically from small businessmen to people in regular employment on a small income siphoning funds away. Amounts could range up to about £200,000.

The new powers have enabled investigators to freeze deposits of £10 million and seize £1.5 million. Det Supt Geoffrey Wood, of the National Drugs Intelligence Unit, told the seminar there had been no convictions to date as a result of

the 500 disclosures volunteered by financial institutions. All had been or were being investigated.

The British Bankers Association, which represents 340 financial institutions, said last night that bankers were fully cooperating with the legislation because they did not want to be associated with serious crime.

Mr Richard Lawrence, the Customs Chief Investigation Officer, said there was evidence that the strategy against drug trafficking was working. He said: "We know from questioning drugs couriers that the going rate for smuggling into the UK is higher than elsewhere. Indicating a greater risk of being caught."

Mr Lawrence said heroin and cannabis smuggling would continue to pose a significant threat.

He said: "I expect the amount of cocaine smuggled to Europe and the UK to increase". This was because of big quantities of the drug available in source countries, such as Colombia, Bolivia, Peru and Brazil, and the opportunity which Europe presented as a supplies outlet.

Mr Timothy Eggar, Under Secretary of State at the Foreign Office, told the seminar that Spain was being used as a distribution centre for a big cocaine export drive into Europe.

Mr Eggar, who visited Spain last week, said a number of British citizens on the Costa del Sol were big movers in drug trafficking. There was some evidence that they were moving into cocaine.

Mr Peter Spurgeon, chief inspector of the Home Office

drugs branch, told the seminar that there were 100,000 regular misusers of heroin, a high proportion of whom were committed injectors and thus actual or potential Aids carriers.

Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security, told the seminar that market research had shown the success of the Government's anti-drugs advertising campaign. Of young people interviewed, 98 per cent said they would definitely not try or would be very unlikely to try heroin or cocaine.

Mr Colin Moynihan, Minister for Sport, told the seminar that the Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs had been asked to consider moves to make the possession of anabolic steroids illegal.

Swiss win 'sweets war'

Nestlé lands Rowntree in £2.5bn deal

By Cliff Feltham and Peter Davenport

One of Britain's most hard-fought takeover battles ended yesterday when Rowntree threw in the towel and accepted a bid worth £2.5 billion from Nestlé, the Swiss foods group.

Some workers were sad at the outcome of the two-month battle but thousands of others who own shares in Rowntree stand to collect a windfall from the deal.

Nestlé is paying a knockout 107.5p a share - which com-

pared with a price of 480p before the bidding began.

About 6,000 employees own shares in the York-based company, manufacturer of Smarties and KitKat, and will make a profit of several thousand pounds each.

Mr Kenneth Dixon, Rowntree's chairman, who has been promised a key role after the bid, and his board also stand to make about

Victory bid 23
Comment 25

£3 million on exercising their options.

The decision to back Nestlé - instead of the rival Swiss company, Jacobs Suchard, which has still not made up its mind on whether to accept the bid - comes in the wake of secret meetings with both companies.

As part of the deal, the York head office will continue to be the centre of Rowntree's operations in the UK, under Mr Dixon, and will handle Nestlé's own international confectionery business.

Mr Helmut Maucher, Nestlé managing director, refused to give any positive assurances about jobs. But he said the new business should end up selling more confectionery which should improve employment prospects.

Last night Mr Conal Gregory, Conservative MP for York, said: "I am pleased that the uncertainty is now over. I am now seeking urgent talks with Nestlé to secure all jobs in York and assurances about future investment in the city."

Labour reacted angrily to the takeover. Mr Bryan Gould, spokesman on trade and industry, said: "This is a sad but inevitable result of the Government's refusal to defend British industry against foreign predators."

Mr Mick Cammidge, branch secretary of the General and Municipal Workers

Union, said: "There have been quite a few tears from the women in the factory. A lot of people are very upset."

Mr Reg Pulleyn, Lord Mayor of York, said: "I have always accepted the argument that if you are going to put billions of pounds into something you are going to want it to succeed. The people of York want it to succeed too."

The unanimous decision by the Rowntree board to recommend shareholders to accept an offer of 107.5p a share brought to an end a remarkable campaign that had been fought to try to keep the company independent.

About 20,000 local people signed "Hands Off Rowntree" coupons in a local newspaper and 1,500 travelled to London to lobby Parliament demanding that the bid be referred to the Monopolies Commission.

Mr Dixon said yesterday: "It is a sad day for me that the long tradition and successful history of Rowntree as an independent company is ending."

"But there comes a point when you have to face facts. What we have here is a good deal for the employees, the shareholders and the city of York."

"I hear they're calling the shareholders 'SMARTIES'."



Princess's winning manoeuvre



The Princess of Wales easing herself into the driving seat of an armoured reconnaissance vehicle during a visit yesterday to the 13th/18th Royal Hussars on Salisbury Plain.

Troops move into Armenia

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

Soviet troops have been deployed in towns in the republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan and in the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh, *Pravda* revealed yesterday.

Strikes and protests in the region are now in their fifth month, and the migration of Armenians from Azerbaijan and Azerbaijanis from Armenia is continuing. The situation, *Pravda* said in a dispatch from Nagorno-Karabakh, is still not back to normal.

Pravda did not say where the troops have been deployed, but dissidents in Moscow showed film of soldiers in the Armenian section of Baku,

and they have been previously deployed in Stepanakert.

The paper gave no reason for the deployment of troops, but one of their functions will be to prevent further violence between Armenians and Azerbaijanis. In February, more than 30 people were killed in

Leading article 15

the Azerbaijani city of Sumgait when Azerbaijanis launched what was described as a pogrom against Armenians.

From the despairing tone of *Pravda's* dispatch, it is clear that the situation is not improving. The authorities in Nagorno-Karabakh have been

unable to halt the strikes and demonstrations, and the region's economy has ceased to function.

In an unusual admission of helplessness, the paper's correspondent expressed doubt that a satisfactory solution could ever be found.

In recent days, he said, the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh had become even more tense. "It would seem impossible that it could become any more tense, but the Armenian population of Stepanakert is staging demonstrations and meetings day after day, as though they are in the grip of mass hypnosis."

BA jet misses royal flight 'by 300 feet'

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A helicopter of the Queen's Flight carrying Princess Margaret came within a few hundred feet of a fully loaded British Airways jumbo jet as it took off from Heathrow and turned on to the same flight path.

The incident was not reported as an air miss even though an air traffic controller immediately notified the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) that he believed the aircraft had been about 300ft from each other.

The authority last night confirmed that it had launched a formal investigation into how a member of the Royal Family came to be flying so close to a civilian aircraft.

Preliminary checks of the radar returns revealed that the two aircraft were about 900ft apart vertically and half a mile apart laterally at their closest point, but it will be some days before the exact details are known.

The pilot of the Queen's Flight, a senior RAF officer, estimated that the two had been about 700ft apart as the British Airways jet climbed above the helicopter.

Princess Margaret had boarded the red Wessex helicopter in the grounds of Kensington Palace for the journey to Quedgeley, Gloucestershire, where she was to open the Scout and Guide

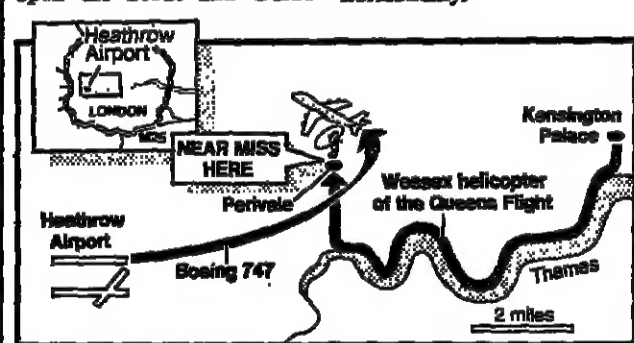
headquarters on Wednesday. The helicopter, which also carried the Princess's private detective and Lady Juliet Townsend, her Lady in Waiting, flew towards Kew Bridge and then headed north west towards Perivale and Northolt.

As it flew over Perivale, British Airways flight BA 005, a Boeing 747 with 337 people on board bound for Anchorage, Alaska, and Tokyo, took off in the opposite direction then turned north on to the same heading before overtaking the helicopter and passing above it.

Normally, the British Airways jet would have been much higher than the estimated 1,400ft at which it is thought to have passed the helicopter.

The Wessex was under the control of Heathrow Approach on the sixth floor of the control tower at the airport, while the Boeing 747 was being given its own instructions direct from London Air Traffic Control Centre at West Drayton, which had taken it over soon after it had left the runway. The aircraft would then have been guided north towards Davenport.

The minimum separation for two aircraft dealing with separate control units is either 1,000ft vertically or five miles horizontally.



INSIDE museum summer

● The custodians of Dublin's heritage are not allowing the millennium celebrations to pass their museums by. The Irish Life Viking Adventure is just one of the new attractions to be found in the city this summer.

● Today *The Times* regional guide to the best of British exhibitions moves to Scotland, Ulster and Ireland, Page 13.

WIN £86,000

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator

● The £4,000 daily Portfolio prize was won yesterday (see page 3). The Accumulator fund now stands at £86,000. Portfolio: Page 29

McEnroe out of Wimbledon

John McEnroe's attempt to win Wimbledon for the fourth time was ended last night by Wally Masur, of Australia who beat him 7-5, 7-6, 6-3.

McEnroe was warned after hurling down his racket in the third set. Pages 41 and 42

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300 feared dead in mudslip

From Rasit Gurdik, Ankara

Up to 300 people were feared dead in north-eastern Turkey yesterday after a mudslide hit a village where vehicles were waiting for a blocked road to be cleared.

Reports said that two coffee houses packed with travellers and at least one bus had been buried, together with several homes, shops and a primary school.

At least 60 people were reported to have been watching a video film in one of the buried coffee houses. The bus

had between 35 and 45 passengers on board when it disappeared under tons of mud.

The Red Crescent relief organization, quoted by the semi-official Anatolian news agency, said 300 people were feared dead. Only three bodies had been found in the rubble 10 hours after the disaster. Survivors suggested that some foreign tourists might have been involved.

The mudslide occurred at the village of Catak, near the

town of Macka in the eastern Black Sea province of Trabzon. A previous mudslide was reported to have blocked the road at midnight, causing the passengers and motorists to queue up on either side and fill the nearby cafs.

Mr Enver Hizlan, the Trabzon governor, said that rescuers had been delayed by the slide continuing for hours but 15 people had been pulled to safety.

A survivor, Mr Temel Continued on page 22, col 3

Barlow Clowes victims vent anger on DTI

By Lawrence Lever

The Department of Trade and Industry was public enemy No 1 at a packed meeting in Manchester Town Hall yesterday of more than 1,000 investors in the crashed Barlow Clowes investment empire.

The DTI came in for heavy criticism as investors who had travelled from around the country to attend the meeting vented their anger over the DTI's licensing of Barlow

Clowes to deal with the public in 1985.

Investors were urged by the meeting's organisers, the law firm Alexander Tatham & Co., to write to their local MPs and an Investors' Committee was approved by the meeting to lobby Parliament.

Many of the investors said they had already contacted their MPs. Some had written to Mrs Thatcher demanding Continued on page 22, col 6

Cave divers' voyage to the centre of the Gorge

By Andrew Morgan

Two of the world's leading underwater cave divers will tomorrow try to press deep into Gough's Cave, under the Mendip Hills, one of the most dangerous pot-holes in Britain.

Mr Robert Palmer and Mr Richard Stevenson will have just 40 minutes of air for underwater exploration available beyond the current known frontier, a 192-foot deep area called Sump 3, which was first chartered three months ago. The deepest point in the sump is 100 feet below sea level.

That exercise was highly dangerous and it nearly claimed Mr Palmer's life when his battery lights failed 90 feet underwater. He also became entangled in a guide line in total darkness and had to cut himself free.

"It was the only time that I thought I would not get out. This time will be working with a safer back-up, but it could still be hairy", he said.

Having examined the geology and known water systems, the divers are confident of surfacing from Sump 3 within the 40 minutes available and more than a million years old and never seen before by Man.

Until 1985, Gough's Cave, carved by water from carboniferous limestone 150 million years old, was only known slightly beyond the area known as St Paul's, where the public wanders freely. Advances in equipment and better preparation made possible the recent exploration of the caves, owned by Lord Weymouth.

Two years ago, Mr Stevenson, a

chartered accountant from Wells, Somerset, struggled through the two-foot wide opening, called Dire Straits, which formed the basis of the discovery of an area believed to be the legendary Lost Cave, mentioned by a rising water table but mentioned in the eleventh century as one of the four wonders of Britain.

Tomorrow's expedition will involve a support team of 12 plus eight divers, and start at about 11am after final equipment is lowered on ropes beyond St Paul's on to a gantry above a lake. All the divers will then swim underwater 550 feet with extra air tanks and other equipment to Bishop's Palace.

Scrambling around this edifice, four will then swim a further 500 feet to Sheppard's Crook where additional

equipment such as air tanks and food has already been cached. The two leaders will plunge from there tomorrow evening into Sump 3 in search of the new terrain, communicating any success through Molephones, which work through deep rock and water.

Mr Palmer, aged 36, from St Briavels, Gloucestershire, said: "We are quite confident there are new caves to be reached with the amount of air available to us".

The diving diseases research centre in Plymouth, has been alerted and Mendip Cave Rescue will also be on guard. Mr Palmer, a writer and photographer added: "This area of the Cheddar Caves is one of the last great unexplored areas of Britain. We both have trepidation but, equally, it offers huge excitement."

THE FAMOUS GROUSE
Quality in an age of change

NEWS ROUNDUP

Half a million break speed limit

More than half a million vehicles exceeded the 50mph speed limit in less than a month through roadworks on the M6 near the Gravelly Hill interchange in Birmingham. West Midlands police said yesterday that electronic sensors in the road surface had enabled detailed speed checks to be carried out over the four-mile stretch of roadworks. From Monday, unmarked police cars will record the speed of offending motorists who will be traced and prosecuted.

Chief Supt. Bob Smalley, head of West Midlands police traffic division, said: "We are not going out to prosecute motorists for the fun of it. We recorded 645,000 vehicles during the test period travelling less than a second apart from each other. If something happened, there is no way that they could have stopped without hitting the vehicle in front. It is a recipe for disaster."

£20m research cut

The Government plans to cut £20 million a year from the payment made to the European Organization for Nuclear Research. Mr Robert Jackson, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Education and Science, told the organization's council yesterday that the UK's annual contribution of £55 million was too high. Britain provides 16 per cent of the organization's budget which is supported by 14 European countries. But Britain's continued membership is in doubt and depends on the body's operations being streamlined.

Seamen win tax relief

Tax concessions to some 11,000 deep-sea seafarers will be worth up to £20 million a year under a proposed amendment to the Finance Bill tabled in the Commons this week. Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, said yesterday that people who worked abroad for a continuous period of 365 days paid no income tax in Britain. However, deep-sea seafarers would gain the tax relief even if they returned to Britain for an intervening period of three months, instead of two previously.

Nurses' leader to quit

The general secretary of the Royal College of Nursing, Mr Trevor Clay, is to retire in the autumn of 1989 on health grounds. The college said Mr Clay, aged 52, had suffered for 15 years from emphysema, the progressive lung disease, and had been told by doctors to retire early. He took office in 1982. His successor will be appointed this autumn. Mr Clay said the college needed a general secretary who would be available at least 16 hours a day. "Sadly, that is something I will not be able to do indefinitely," he said.

£206,000 cottage sale

A derelict stone cottage at Fotheringhay, near Oundle, Northamptonshire, which has been condemned by the local council as unfit for human habitation, has been sold at auction for a record £206,000. The three-bedroom, one acre property needs complete renovation.

Hammond stands by single-union deals

Electricians face recruitment war

By Tim Jones
and Roland Rudd

The country's biggest union is preparing to launch a membership war on the electricians (EETPU), which is set to be suspended from the TUC after reiterating yesterday that it would not break its single-union agreements.

The Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) has drawn up secret plans to recruit members from the electricians after Wednesday's TUC decision to suspend the EETPU for refusing to pull out of two single-union deals.

A confidential letter to transport union officers in South Wales appears to confirm the fears of Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, that the dispute with the electricians will result in anarchy with "1,000 hand to hand combats breaking out across industry".

Details of a seven-point membership drive against the 330,000 members of the electricians' union have been sent to the transport union's 25 full-time officers in Wales, the region where ill-feeling against the single-union approach is at its strongest.

Yesterday, Mr Hammond, the electricians' general secretary, said he could not respond to the TUC general council's two week deadline to scrap two single-union no-strike deals.

His members are being balloted on a rule change which would force the union out of the TUC.

The result, which is widely expected to back the rule change, will not be known until July 19. By then the union will have been formally suspended until the TUC meets in October, when the electricians are expected to be expelled.

After a meeting of the union's 15 man executive, Mr Hammond said

yesterday: "We cannot respond to the TUC in time. We have asked that deadline to be extended but will not break our single union agreements."

The letter from the transport union declaring a virtual membership war on the electricians has been signed by Mr George Wright, its regional secretary in Wales who first complained about the EETPU's single-union deal with the Japanese company Orion Electric (UK). The letter will strengthen the EETPU's conviction that there has been a conspiracy against it, for it was sent to the transport union's officers two weeks before the TUC's suspension decision.

In his letter, Mr Wright says that although informal contacts will be established immediately with EETPU members and representatives "no action should be taken because the EETPU is suspended until the con-

gress has confirmed expulsion or withdrawal".

Mr Wright calculates that after the EETPU expulsion, the transport union will no longer be bound by the Bridlington Agreement which prevents "poaching" from other TUC affiliated unions. Under the plan, Officers have been told to warn members and employers that a non-TUC union will not be accepted in joint union negotiations.

Mr Wright adds: "It is important to appreciate that the feed back from EETPU members is that an overwhelming majority wish to remain in the traditional position of TUC affiliates".

However, in a debate on no-strike deals during the EETPU's industrial conference in Scarborough yesterday, shop stewards from all over the country spoke in favour of the new-style agreements.

Thatcher dismisses interest rate fears

By Nicholas Wood
Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister yesterday brushed aside industrialists' protests over the latest rise in interest rates and suggested they concentrate their energies on curbing wage increases.

Mrs Thatcher emphasized the importance of controlling inflation, saying that the acceptance of this approach had brought prosperity at home and abroad.

She said the message from the Toronto economic summit was one of "achievement and confidence in the future".

The Opposition benches and some of her own side criticized her over Wednesday's 0.5 per cent base rate increase - the third in less than a month.

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, asked her if she agreed with Mr John Bannan, the director general of the Confederation of British Industry, that the present medicine would not work.

His remarks were echoed by Mr Nicholas Winterton, the Conservative MP for Macclesfield, who said some people were concerned about interest rates, not least when they penalized wealth creation.

The Prime Minister retorted: "It would be a far bigger problem for industry if we got a resurgence of inflation. That would be far worse."

"A 1 per cent increase in wage rates costs four times as much as a 1 per cent increase in interest rates. Those who are complaining now have seen during this last year an increase in wages and salaries of an average of 8.5 per cent."

"It ill behoves them to complain about interest rate increases of half a per cent."

Mr Kinnock said that it was clear that the Government had lost all control of credit and, as usual was making industry pay the price.

Mrs Thatcher replied that short-term interest rates were an essential instrument of monetary policy and without them inflation could not be kept under control.

Parliament, page 12

SLD attacks 'difficult, intolerant Owen'

By Richard Ford
Political Correspondent

The bitter personal animosities between former allies in the centre ground of British politics spilled out publicly yesterday as the Social and Liberal Democrats launched their by-election campaign.

As Labour sought to highlight what its deputy leader, Mr Roy Hattersley, described as the squalid and unpleasant aspects of life under the Conservative government, the SLD fiercely turned on the SDP and its leader.

Mr William Goodhart, the SLD candidate and one of the authors of the party's constitution, said Dr Owen's SDP could cause problems for the SLD but he tried to dismiss his former Alliance colleagues as interveners and spoilers.

Mr Goodhart said: "The Owenites have Dr Owen but the thought of a leadership election in the Owenite party is unthinkable. We are a real party with 3,500 councillors who are effectively involved in the administration in something like one hundred local authorities."

He said the SLD was aware that in the by-election, the first since the Alliance split, it had to establish its identity

He accused Dr Owen of being difficult to work with and intolerant of dissent.

Meanwhile the Conservative and Labour parties were running their campaigns from bases reflecting the divisions in the community.

In a chintzy room at an hotel overlooking Kensington Palace, Mr Dudley Fishburn, the Conservative candidate, was predicting that the only issues would be the national economy and conservation.

A few miles away Mrs Ann Holmes, the Labour candidate, was at the party's campaign headquarters - a gym in a disused school. She pursued Labour's strategy of concentrating on the Conservatives, who it regards as the only opponents.

She hopes issues such as health, education and social welfare benefit changes will overturn the Conservatives' 4,447 majority at the general election.

The main candidates for the July 14th poll are Mrs Holmes, Labour; Mr Fishburn, Conservative; Mr Goodhart, SLD and Mr John Martin, SDP.

General Election 1987: Sir Brandon Rhodes (Liberal) 12,848; Mr William Goodhart (SLD) 10,271; Mr Dudley Fishburn (Conservative) 4,447; Mr Owen (SDP) 1,270. (Current poll: SLD 3,500; Labour 3,500; Conservative 4,447; SDP 1,270.)



Mr William Goodhart at his poll headquarters yesterday (Photograph: Denzil McNeelance)

Labour's policy review

Gould challenges Bennites

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Bryn Gould last night condemned the "boycooters" of Labour's policy review, calling on them to take part in the process rather than trying to discredit it from the outside.

As Labour's soft left added to the criticisms of the way the review is being conducted, Mr Gould told Mr Tony Benn and others who have not participated that their criticism would carry more weight if they were prepared to test them against the views of their colleagues.

Mr Gould, speaking in Dagenham, Essex, said Labour's opponents had not been able to wait for the policy

review to begin before attacking what they chose to assume would be its conclusions.

The anxiety to discredit the review in advance was shared by internal critics who were trying to fan party fears by pretending the review had already occurred and had bypassed the party.

Mr Gould, the party spokesman on trade and industry, who chairs the key economic review group, was replying to soft left criticism that the review has been too elitist.

Meanwhile the soft left Labour Co-ordinating Committee called on the party to make the review "much more

open and democratic". It said that at best the review was treated with scepticism by party members, and at worst many suspected it was a device for weakening the party's radical commitments.

It added that the terms of the debate were already clouded with charges of self-interest and betrayal.

Mr Roy Hattersley, the party's deputy leader, said last night that he would de-commission Trident or Polaris missiles. He said that he did not understand "what the fuss over Trident is all about".

He had fought his 1964 election on the promise to get rid of the British deterrent.

University ratings

Dons downgrade colleges

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Two university accountability departments, at Aberdeen and Leeds, earmarked for possible closure, have failed to win the praise of their peers in a review conducted by *The Times Higher Educational Supplement*.

The review also shows that pharmacy dons rank Oxford and Cambridge relatively low for research.

Aberdeen and Leeds have already taken steps to avoid closure, but only Aberdeen features among the top research and teaching centres for the subject as voted by academics themselves.

Top research accountability departments are: Lancaster, Manchester, London School

of Economics, Glasgow, Bristol, Strathclyde, and equally Exeter and the London Business School.

For teaching: Manchester, Lancaster, Bristol, Glasgow, equal fifth, Heriot-Watt, Liverpool, LSE, Trent Polytechnic, equal ninth: Birmingham, Exeter, East Anglia; twelfth: Edinburgh; equal thirteenth: Aberdeen, Hull.

For pharmacy research: Strathclyde; Aston; equal third: London School of Pharmacy, University College, London; fifth: Cambridge, Nottingham; seventh: Bristol, Oxford; equal ninth: Liverpool, Manchester.

For teaching: Bristol; equal second: Oxford and Sunder-

land Poly; fourth: Cambridge, equal fifth: Strathclyde and University College London, equal seventh: Liverpool, Manchester, University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, equal tenth: Glasgow and London School of Pharmacy, twelfth: Nottingham, Reading and Newcastle are the top three in agriculture.

No-strike clause, page 4.

Within an hour of the review's publication, a telephone call to the police was made by a man who said he was a member of the Home Office. He said he was a member of the Home Office and was a member of the Home Office. He said he was a member of the Home Office and was a member of the Home Office.

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By Howard F. The Duchess of York, who was the first child in six years to be born in the Centre Court. The Duchess of York, who was the first child in six years to be born in the Centre Court. The Duchess of York, who was the first child in six years to be born in the Centre Court.

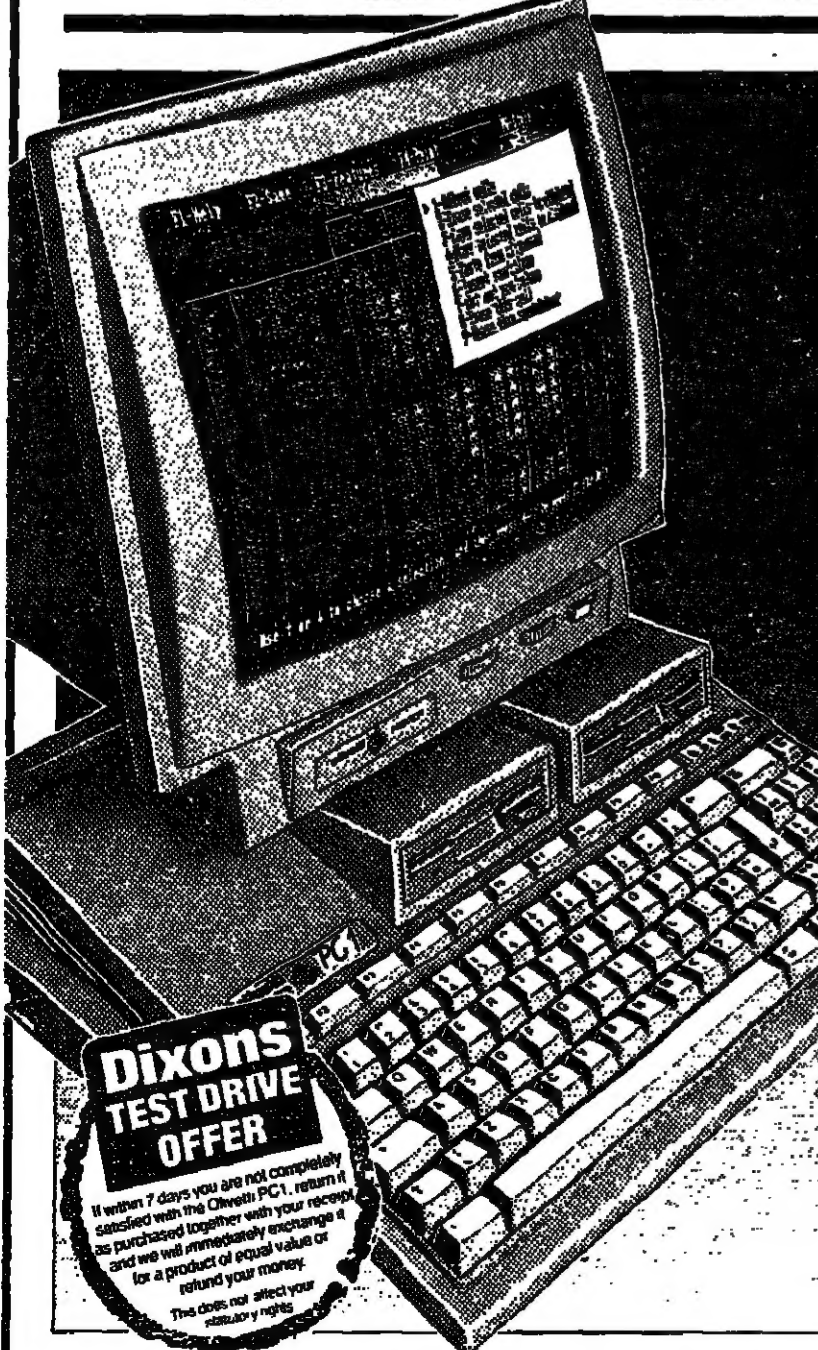
She spent all afternoon in the All England Club in the Royal Box by her mother. She spent all afternoon in the All England Club in the Royal Box by her mother. She spent all afternoon in the All England Club in the Royal Box by her mother.

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Spending on alcohol is national disgrace says church charity

By Michael Horsnell

The amount of money spent on producing and consuming alcohol was condemned as a "national disgrace" by a Church of England charity yesterday.

The church's National Council for Social Aid demanded that money from the drinks industry should pay for alcohol education and special services for problem drinkers.

In a report to the ministerial group on alcohol abuse set up by Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Social Services, the charity also called for government funds to reduce alcohol misuse.

It said: "It would be a fair reflection of the council's position to suggest that it is a national disgrace that so much is spent on manufacturing, distributing and consuming alcohol and so little is spent on responding to the problems generated."

The council also recommended random breath tests to combat drinking and driving, life bans on persistent drink-drive offenders and more controls on drink advertising and its presentation in the media.

The Bishop of Horsham, the Right Rev Colin Docket, who is chairman of the council, said: "There can be little doubt that alcohol abuse is a significant factor in football hooliganism, motorway offences and violent crime."

There is a need for urgent government action to combat the growing problem."

The Brewers Society criticized the report, emphasizing the financial support given by the industry to research and

The Home Office yesterday rejected suggestions by Sir Peter Imbert, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, that Britain would be forced to introduce a scheme of national identity cards.

Sir Peter had claimed the Government would be under pressure to adopt such a scheme when the Common Market, in which most nations have identity cards, scrapped frontier controls in 1992.

The Home Office said: "European community passports will be introduced over the coming years but identity cards remain strictly a matter for individual governments."

education. It said: "We take this whole question very seriously already. Drinkers in the United Kingdom provide the Government with £6.5 billion in taxation per annum, equivalent to more than one third of the cost of the entire National Health Service."

"Moreover, the drinks industry is at the forefront of providing funds and projects to help research and to curb alcohol abuse."

The British Institute of Innkeeping said in its monthly newsletter that the problems of hooliganism were more complex than the contents of a pint glass.

"Behaviour which respects little and thumbs its nose at much more is undeniably deep-seated, with factors such as alienation, frustrated aspirations and thwarted ambitions playing a major role", it said. Alcohol had become the victim of violence rather than

its cause.

"Past generations of soccer fans have happily enjoyed a visit to the pub on the way to or from a match with no adverse consequences. Today, we find that pubs close to sporting venues and entertainment centres are being increasingly threatened with curbs on their ability to trade at times of peak sales potential. Why is it that pubs should carry the burden for the football clubs or the more general evils in society?", the institute said.

Working parties involving the police, commercial interests, brewers, the Licensed Victuallers Association and the city council have produced 15 recommendations to tackle problems of violence, vandalism and drunkenness in the city centre.

A proposed by-law will prevent outdoor drinking of alcohol within the inner ring road.

In Carlisle, a video camera has been installed by police at the Citadel to watch incidents of weekend drunken violence. Drunken children, some aged 11, ruined a village carnival at Seaton, Cumbria at the weekend, a former magistrate said yesterday.

Mrs Violet Nutter, who retired recently after 36 years on the bench, said: "It was a sick and sorry sight. A family day out turned into a day of terror."

Police said seven people were arrested.

Clowes creditors' fighting talk



Tales of woe — some from investors who preferred to keep their names and faces away from public view — were told in abundance when about a thousand angry people packed a Barlow Clowes creditors' meeting in Manchester yesterday. They are to set up a fighting fund to tackle the Department of Trade and Industry (Photograph: Barry Greenwood).

Fake goods linked to organized crime

By Rosemary Unsworth, Retail Affairs Correspondent

Organized crime is behind some of the biggest operations involved in the counterfeiting of branded goods, a trading watchdog said yesterday.

Mr Joe Mann, chief trading standards officer at Trafford Borough Council, was speaking after reducing his department's latest haul of 2,000 counterfeit watches to bits of twisted metal by running a steamroller driven by the mayor, Mr George Marland, over them.

The watches were imitation Cartier, Rolex, Dunhill, Longines, Gucci, Christian Dior and Patek Philippe. They were found in a house in Manchester after information from investigators working for the watch companies. Two men have been jailed.

"We found examples of expensive watches whose authentic counterparts would sell for between £150 and £30,000", Mr Mann said.

"In other parts of the country we know these items have been sold in clubs, pubs and on racetracks for between £40 and £100 but basically

they are Mickey Mouse watches worth just £2 to £3. They are made in Bangkok where they are on open sale. They usually break within six weeks."

Mr Mann said organized crime had come into counterfeiting all sorts of goods from designer clothes, French perfume and watches, because it is a lot less risky than robbing banks, or running prostitution or drug rings.

The counterfeiters have factories in the Far East and bring the goods to Britain either in pieces or fully assembled. Watches marked Homeages — obviously not a genuine brand — are legally imported and then the H and S are scratched off once they are in the country when they are sold as Omegas.

Lacoste T-shirts selling for £15 instead of £30 and Ray-Ban sunglasses for £5 instead of £50 are also in fine for imitation. Last month trading standards officers in Tower Hamlets, east London, seized 9,000 pairs of counterfeit Ray-Bans from a warehouse.

Abuse report may blame consultants

By Boris Johnson and Tim Perry

An official report by a committee of doctors in the Government's standing medical advisory committee is expected to place blame for the Cleveland child abuse affair on the diagnostic procedures of Dr Marietta Higgs and Dr Geoffrey Wyatt.

Mr Antony Newton, the Minister for Health, asked the standing medical advisory committee to set up a working party in the wake of the Cleveland affair last year, in which 120 children were diagnosed as abuse victims and at one stage 250 children were taken from their parents by the local social services department.

The doctors were asked to produce a general medical opinion on the diagnosis of child abuse. Their findings are based on the discussions of a working party of 12 leading general practitioners and medical professors of child health.

The findings are expected to be released at about the same time as the results of the judicial inquiry into the affair

conducted by Lord Justice Butler-Sloss. Those are expected on July 6.

One person closely connected with the report by the doctors has confirmed that the experts' view is that the reflex anal dilatation test (RAD), on which Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt relied heavily, is "quite unreliable".

The report has no direct praise or criticism of Dr Higgs or Dr Wyatt, but emphasizes that any diagnosis on the basis of reflex anal dilatation alone is not possible.

In its recommendations the report by implication criticizes the procedures that were adopted in the Cleveland affair. It says that sexual abuse cannot be diagnosed by medical signs alone.

The source said that "the report vindicates the police". Mr David Scourfield, a Middlesbrough solicitor acting for 12 families caught up in the Cleveland affair, has said that he will be pressing ahead with writs against Dr Higgs and Dr Wyatt.

Gang terrorized travellers

A gang of youths created terror on the London Underground by systematically robbing and attacking passengers, a court was told yesterday.

The group of 14 youths threatened passengers with knives and ruthlessly kicked and punched any who got in their way.

The teenagers robbed travellers on platforms, station concourses, and three trains, Knightsbridge, Crown Court, south-west London, was told.

Mr Kevin de Haan, for the prosecution, said the gang was directed by Solomon O'Kore, aged 18, a student who wore a distinctive black baseball cap marked by the word "SWAT" in gold letters.

Mr de Haan said: "The group steamed, powering on to a train en masse, systematically passing through the train by emergency doors or exit doors if the train stopped."

"Passengers were vested to see if anything on them looked worth stealing. The method relied on intimidation, sheer mass of numbers and the use of violence if necessary."

The gang put its haul in a haversack, which was continually passed between them.

The jury was told that the reign of terror stretched right across the London Underground network and lasted for several hours on the first day of last year's Notting Hill carnival in west London. The

gang was finally halted at Baker Street station, where police swooped during a mass mugging and arrested four youths as they tried to escape, it was alleged.

Mr O'Kore, of Bileau Port Road, New Cross, south-east London, Michael James, aged 18, a student, of Waterfield Road, Upper Holloway, north London, Michael Brown, aged 18, unemployed of Firefield Estate, Finsbury Park, north London, and Andre Lee, aged 17, a student, of Asplin Road, Tottenham, north London, all deny conspiracy to rob.

Mr Brown and Mr Lee also deny assault.

The case continues today.

M50 murder hunt

Baffling case 'a detective's nightmare'

In eight murders out of 10, Det Chief Supt David Cole said, the culprit is arrested before the detective gets out of bed. In the case of Marie Wilks, the story remains baffling.

At 7.37pm last Saturday, she was speaking from a motorway emergency telephone. Four minutes later she was gone, abducted and stabbed to death.

Within an hour of the telephone call the police system was geared to a serious crime inquiry. "From the start everything pointed in that direction. No time was lost", Mr Cole, of West Mercia police said.

A police helicopter swept with a thermal imager around the area around the motorway where her car had been found. The ground was warm, however, and the image did not show. It was not until the following Monday that a detective, investigating a report of a parked car, found Mrs Wilks.

By then the ranks of computers forming Holmes, the Home Office large major enquiry system, were set up. The system digests all statements, forensic findings sent from the West Midlands laboratories, and any information telephoned from the incident room at Droitwich, Hereford and Worcester, linking it in categories for immediate retrieval. "If I asked for every reference to knife, for example, it spews them out within seconds", Mr Cole explained.

The room is also linked to the police national computer.

As the hunt continues for the M50 murderer of Mrs Marie Wilks, Ronald Faux visited the incident room and met the men heading an investigation they describe as "a detective's nightmare".



Det Chief Supt David Cole, left, and Det Chief Insp Tony Stanley yesterday in the incident room at Droitwich.

Expert pathologists, in particular a forensic pathologist, are on hand, and a biochemist from the forensic science laboratory is ready to handle and analyse material.

In the case of Mrs Wilks, six officers trained to check every square inch of ground for clues worked on their knees looking for any trace of murderer and victim. "The scientific process can take weeks to give results but it is vital. Everyone has to be patient", Mr Cole said.

"We cut our way in through the undergrowth from a distance of 15 yards without

disturbing anything or any ground where we knew someone had been. It can take some time to reach the body."

For that reason it was not until the mortuary examination that the police knew for certain that they were investigating a murder.

Mr Cole could not think of a worse scenario for a murder than when someone simply disappeared. "It is a nightmare", he said. The obstacles were obvious. The murder was committed probably on impulse and using the motorway the murderer could have been miles away from the

scene within minutes. Mr Cole is anxious for every scrap of information from the public while the meticulous search for forensic clues goes on.

The incident room is a place of cool calm. No bells ring and there is no sense of intense activity, just a printer churning out information, lines of operators watching their screens, and detectives checking and thinking hard. So far 450 inquiries have been made, more than 300 messages with 400 more waiting to enter the system, and 70 statements taken. It is just the beginning.

Cars were sweeping past the murder spot at more than 40 a minute. A memory caught in the corner of someone's eye could provide the vital clue that allows a breakthrough for the 129 officers and scientists.

This is the eightieth homicide at which Mr Coles has acted as senior investigating officer. Seventy-eight have been cleared up. When he was a child he used to play on Brockridge Common where Mrs Wilks was found. He has had little sleep these last few nights, and his main relief has been to take his dog for an early morning walk.

"No matter what sophistication you apply at the end of the day it is the detective following his nose and doing the work he has been doing for 150 years that leads to the culprit: the routine, humdrum, boring, and time-consuming work that we hope will bring that great satisfaction of success."

Wimbledon touts are getting younger

By Howard Foster

The Duchess of York, who is expecting her first child in six weeks, sat through temperatures well into the seventies in the Centre Court, Wimbledon, yesterday.

She spent all afternoon and part of the evening there, watching matches involving Jimmy Connors, Gabriella Sabatini and John McEnroe.

She drove herself and her detective to the All England Club in her own open-top Jaguar sports car and was joined in the Royal Box by her mother, Mrs Susan Barrantes, and some friends.

Her medical advisers had warned her a few days ago to restrict her social engagements and she has already cancelled a trip to Glencoe in Scotland this week because it would have involved flying.

Meanwhile, the spirit of free enterprise that surrounds Wimbledon fortnight was taken to a more extreme length, police reported yesterday, after they caught two boys, aged 13 and 14, who were touting tickets to foreign visitors outside the club's main gates.

"We had quite a few complaints from spectators who were leaving the Centre Court in the early evening and who were

approached by these boys to sell their unwanted Centre Court tickets for £1", said Chief Inspector Kenneth Foster.

"The club usually asks if those leaving the Centre Court early would hand back their tickets which can be sold for charity by the club at the end of the day. These two were trying to make some money for themselves by getting the tickets and running outside to find unsuspecting foreign tourists who would pay £5 for the tickets."

One of the boys was found by police to have £46 in his pockets and the pair had 10 tickets in their possession.

Match reports, pages 41-42

Portfolio PLUS NEW Accumulator Winner in raft trip

The sole winner of the daily Portfolio prize of £4,000 is to use some of the money to go on a raft trip down the Colorado.

Mrs Anne Mathews, a teacher, from Purley, Surrey, said that when she and her husband had visited the Grand Canyon six years ago, they had not chosen to pursue any ambitious adventure. However she said that she had "finally plucked up the courage to face the rapids" and was looking forward to their return journey.

Mrs Mathews and her husband are also enthusiastic sailors and hope to use a portion of the remaining money to purchase new safety equipment for their yacht.

TOMORROW



The Times Property Guide

Tomorrow's full-colour, 20-page Times Property Guide describes how Newport is rivaling Cardiff and finds families tracing the history of their homes

Court told boy was called 'it'

Mr Fred Scott, who is accused with Miss Susan Poole of killing their son Dean, aged 10 months, by starving him to death, referred to the child as "it", a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told. Mr Scott, aged 39, a former special constable, and Miss Poole, aged 21, of Cumber Grove, Camberwell, south London, deny murdering Dean and neglecting his brother, Michael, aged 22 months. The hearing continues.

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MINOLTA

Lawyer plans group of 'no win no fee' damages case firms

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The Scottish solicitor who has launched his own company to take on accident and personal injury claims on a "no win, no fee" basis intends to form a network of firms throughout the United Kingdom.

If successful, his company will have broken through the present prohibitions on American-style contingency fee arrangements, in which a solicitor takes on a case for nothing and recoups his fees as a slice of any damages awarded.

Mr Frank Lefevre, whose company Quantum (Quantum Claims Specialists Compensation Ltd) was launched last month, said yesterday that he has been to see two "medium-sized" London firms who are interested in forming a link.

Four other firms spread through England and Northern Ireland have also expressed interest. The next move, he said, was to take counsel's opinion because the firms wanted to ensure they would not be in breach of professional practice rules. "We are now going to take counsel's opinion because they are concerned that we should not do anything that is not totally accepted."

Contingency fees are prohibited under the Solicitors Act, 1974, under the Law Society's own practice rules; and are unenforceable at common law.

The Law Society of Scotland has not taken any action against Mr Lefevre after initial expressions of disapproval. It is waiting to see if the scheme does amount to a breach of the rules.

If counsel's opinion is favourable, the plan is for a network of Quantum "appointees", Mr Lefevre said. Those would be solicitors appointed as the company's representatives in a given geographical area who would be listed in the Yellow Pages or other directory as working on the "no win, no fee" basis.

They would also benefit from national advertising under the "Quantum" logo. Mr Lefevre has had 250 inquiries from potential claimants after advertising for four weeks on Scottish television. Another round of advertising is planned.

Most of these claims, which include road accident fatalities and injuries, medical malpractice cases, drug cases and some industrial injuries, come from Grampian al-

though some are from England and Wales. Mr Lefevre said: "We have opened between 40 and 50 files in cases where we are certain of a good result for the claimant at the end of the day."

Many of the claims stemmed from accidents in 1986-87 and had it not been for the "sheer accessibility" of the free telephone number that was advertised, they would not have taken any action. "Many of them were seeking legal advice for the first time and in many cases we can do something for them."

Even if the company expanded no further, he was satisfied with the success so far.

Under Quantum, fees for claims up to £10,000 will roughly correspond to those now charged by solicitors in personal injury cases and according to the scale used when claims are negotiated by insurance companies who then pay the fees.

From £10,000 to £50,000, Mr Lefevre expects to take 15 per cent of the damages; from £50,000 to £100,000 a cut of 12.5 per cent and with claims negotiated of more than £100,000, a cut of 10 per cent.

Socks fit for Royal Academy



Mr Roger de Grey, president of the Royal Academy, tries the socks Miss Sophie Mirman, chairman of Sock Shop, asked him to design in celebration of this weekend's festival of contemporary arts in the academy courtyard in Piccadilly.

Classics staging fightback

By Sarah Thompson, Education Reporter

Classics is fighting back in universities in spite of its near extinction in state schools and the administration of seven university departments.

Since 1983, there has been a steady rise from 3,220 to 3,301 in the numbers of students reading classical subjects; the Council of University Classics Departments has found.

The council says the University Grants Committee erred in recording a 31.9 per cent drop in students in 1985-1986 because it had reclassified "laterae humaniores" at Oxford, the four-year course of literature, philosophy and ancient history, as "multi-disciplinary studies".

However, the error had not affected the committee's recommendations to amalgamate the seven university departments with others.

The council says there are nearly 150 more full-time classics students than in 1972. Despite predictions that the subject was falling into disuse, there are now nearly 150 more full-time equivalent classics students than in 1972.

The number of academics teaching classics has steadily fallen.

City technology colleges

Staff face no-strike clause

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

The two largest teaching unions reacted angrily to an announcement yesterday that teachers at one of the new establishments set up under the Government's city technology college programme would be banned from taking strike action.

Mr John Ramsden, project director of the Nottingham college, scheduled to open in September 1989, said contracts issued to individual teachers would include a clause forbidding them to strike.

The National Union of Teachers said the announcement was unacceptable. The National Association of

Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers (NAS/UNT) will tell its members not to apply for the jobs.

Mr Ramsden said the governors of the new college would either create their own staff association or seek a no-strike deal with the Professional Association of Teachers (PAT), which opposes strike action.

"The principle which must be stated is that there will be a no-strike agreement. It would be unfair to recruit people without them being aware of that," Mr Ramsden said.

Mr John Andrews, assistant general secretary of PAT, which is seeking an urgent

meeting with Mr Ramsden, said: "We could offer them a single-union no-strike deal". However, Mr Fred Smithies, NAS/UNT general secretary, said: "We will fight it".

The dispute broke out as the CTC Trust, the body set up by the Government to oversee its plans for the creation of 20 of the new colleges, announced it had found a sponsor for a college in Kent.

Mr Geoffrey Leigh, chairman of Allied London Properties and a member of the Prince of Wales Youth Business Trust, is putting up an undisclosed sum to launch the new college at The Downs School, Dartford.

Plea over school governors

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Extra government money must be found to train school governors if they are to be able to run Britain's schools properly, a report published yesterday said.

The National Foundation of Educational Research said that adequate training of the country's 400,000 school governors would cost at least £14 million more than the Government's present allowance of £4.9 million. Last year, 11,000 received training.

Reports from across the country also suggest that present governors are reluctant to continue and that new recruits are proving hard to find to undertake the detailed running of schools as laid down in the Education Reform Bill.

From September, governors will be responsible for financial management, the hiring and firing of staff, suspension of pupils and overseeing the curriculum.

The foundation says that a key problem will be to find

enough governors willing to take on the new role.

The foundation is critical of the present rather patchy training arrangements and says that more information on the role of governors and their training should be available "if governors are to be recruited to the work".

The report was welcomed by Mrs Angela Rumbold, the Education Minister, who agreed that "a coherent framework for school governors' training should urgently be sought".

Cook 'not entitled to danger payment'

A payment to a cook who was an historic House of Lords ruling last month that she was entitled to the same pay as other workers at a shipyard was delayed by an industrial tribunal in Liverpool yesterday.

Cammell Laird, of Birkenhead, Merseyside, claimed that Miss Julie Hayward, aged 28, was not entitled to a £4 special condition allowance for dangerous work which was paid to other workers as normal wages.

The claim could lead to Miss Cook receiving about £1,000 less than the amount the company agreed to pay her after the law lords decision. Mr Alan Coventry, the tribunal chairman, in reserving judgement, said the case highlighted fundamental problems in existing law.

PC charged

Police Constable Carl Pendlebury, aged 26, was remanded on bail by Bromley Magistrates' Court, Kent, yesterday accused of attempting to murder Carol Brierley, aged 37, at Hayes Common, Hayes, Kent. PC Pendlebury is stationed at Paddington Green, west London.

Damages win

Ronnie Corbett, the comedian, won undisclosed damages in the High Court yesterday over allegations in the Scottish *Sunday Mail* that he had been blackballed by the Merfield Golf Club, Scotland. The paper said the article was unfounded.

Robson case

Bryan Robson, the England and Manchester United football captain, was "banned" to appear before Magistrates' Court, Greater Manchester, magistrates on August 4 after being charged yesterday with drink driving and failing to provide a specimen for analysis.

Riot charges

More than 20 prisoners at Haverhill Prison, Cambridgeshire, have been charged in connection with the riots and mass escape there earlier this month. They face charges of conspiracy to escape, attempting to escape, and possession of tools.

Major yields

Major Ronald Ferguson, the Duchess of York's father, yesterday dropped plans to build a house near the duckpond in the Hampshire village of Dunterville, near Basingstoke.

Archaeological dig under threat

The discovery of a second-century Roman warehouse near London Bridge station has highlighted an apparent loophole in the funding of archaeology which will be raised in the Commons today.

Mr Simon Hughes, SLD MP for Bermondsey, won a ballot for an adjournment debate after a feature in *The Times* last month on the archaeological dig, which is threatened because of lack of funds.

English Heritage, the statutory custodian of archaeological sites, has said that the funding of digs on development sites must be the responsibility of the developers.

This had occurred at places such as Hay's Wharf, near the warehouse site, where fourteenth-century remains of the Rosary Palace of Edward II are being excavated after a £25,000 sponsorship by the private developer.

However, the London borough of Southwark, which is developing the warehouse site,

has said that it has no municipal money available. Mr Hughes said: "We need to be sure that examples of London's past such as this will have the support of English Heritage and of the Government, and to be sure that we rescue everything that is available. The contrast between the warehouse site and the Hay's Wharf site is the difference between private and public development."

The wooden warehouse may be one of several ancient buildings on the site of the former Courage brewery. Archaeologists believe it survived because an early form of the Thames Barrier collapsed during the third century, inundating the area. Traces of Roman activity have been discovered two metres further down.

Mr Hughes said: "There should be safeguards to ensure that important archaeological sites being developed by public authorities are treated in

the same way as those funded by private developers, and public authorities such as Southwark council should be compensated if necessary."

A report on historic buildings and ancient monuments by the Commons select committee on the environment, published in January last year, recommends that more Areas of Archaeological Importance should be established and that developers should be obliged by law to pay for rescuing the archaeology their development would destroy.

Sir Hugh Rossi, chairman of the committee, has been pressing Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, for time to debate the controversial report.

Archaeologists have launched a £25,000 appeal to conserve the remains of the warehouse, which had double-cavity walls to cool its contents, probably wine, and a shingle roof. A reconstruction could be displayed at the new Museum of the Docklands.

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Reagan focus tops Channel 4 line-up

An investigation into President Reagan, spearheads a line-up of documentaries in Channel 4's £25 million summer season, announced yesterday.

The three-part series claims to be the first serious assessment of his ambitions, achievements and failures. It will feature interviews with the President, his family, colleagues, friends and enemies and will also draw on material gained from White House film archives.

Other documentaries announced by Mr Michael Grade, Channel 4's chief executive, will focus on Glasgow and the Highlands; how cinema and television portray London's east end; and on the Palestinians.

Among the stars in the new season will be Glenda Jackson, returning in a mini-series based on Eugene O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*, and Sir

John Gielgud in a two-part series talking about an actor's life.

Burt Lancaster and Julie Christie star in *Fathers and Sons*, heading an international cast in a four-part series telling the story of two German industrial dynasties through the two world wars.

Mr Grade said: "Channel 4 never accepts that summer is simply a time for repeats. Viewers still want distinctive and diverting new programmes."

He said there would be new dramas in the season, including one about the life of Hemingway.

Among art programmes will be *Virtuoso*, featuring four virtuosos - Murray Perahia, Nathan Milstein, Vladimir Ashkenazy and Isaac Stern - in performance and discussion with Jonathan Miller.

The channel's *Brookside* series will shift its second weekly episode to Wednesday.



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Hospitals urged to publish mortality rates for operations

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Hospitals should publish comparative death rates so that patients know where they are likely to get the best and safest treatment, the chairman of the National Association of Health Authorities said yesterday.

Mrs Julia Cumberlege, who is also chairman of Brighton health authority, added that doctors who consistently failed to improve their performance should be dismissed.

Mrs Cumberlege, in a speech to the association's annual conference in Harrogate, said that choosing a specialist or a hospital for treatment was "still a shot in the dark".

While schools were obliged to publish examination results to show how well they performed, hospitals did not have to give any details about success rates for different types of operation. The patient was expected to choose a hospital on the advice of a GP, with virtually no information on which to base that decision.

"We can no longer disguise our failures by stating the numbers of patient discharges without discriminating between those who are discharged through the front gate and those who are discharged through the back gate," Mrs Cumberlege said.

Delegates were told that a study in Edinburgh had shown that in one specialty, the death rate was twice as high when surgery was carried out by general surgeons than when the same operation was carried out by specialist surgeons.

Mrs Cumberlege suggested that hospitals should publish

annual death rates for each of the specialties. She admitted that in small district general hospitals individual doctors could be identified from the figures, but it would then be up to the hospital to monitor the doctors. "There are good consultants and not quite such good consultants. If you urged the worst to try and improve their performance and they don't respond, they should seek a career somewhere else."

Consultants should be put on short-term contracts held by district health authorities in line with other health service staff.

"District health authority members, chairmen, general managers and ancillary staff are now under contracts which are renewable on a real value-for-money basis," Mrs Cumberlege said.

Although districts should not enter the field of clinical judgement they should be determined to provide the best service for the consumer by assessing the performance of all their employees. Consultants have little to lose, she said. "The only thing they have to fear is the loss of the least competent, who irritate the good as much as they damage the service."

Dr Chris Ham, policy analyst at the King's Fund Institute, later argued that a recent study had shown that 20 per cent of deaths that happened soon after surgery were avoidable. "In some districts, as many as two-thirds of deaths were avoidable, whereas elsewhere only 5 per cent of deaths were avoidable," Dr Ham said.

Clearly patients stand a better chance of surviving surgery in some districts than others.

Preventable deaths occurred because diagnoses were missed and because of inadequate, delayed or non-existent surgical intervention.

Dr Ham argued that medical audit, whereby doctors assess each other's medical performance, should be introduced throughout the country.

The Government should threaten the medical profession with imposing a national audit unless the profession got its own house in order first.

Mr Stephen Nixon, consultant general surgeon at the Western General Hospital, Edinburgh, said that a surgical audit in his district had shown that when general surgeons carried out certain types of major vascular surgery they had 80 per cent mortality rates after the operation, compared with a 40 per cent death rate when the same operations were carried out by a specialist blood vessel unit.

Mr Nixon said that since the study, carried out in 1986 as part of a regular audit under the terms of a contract with the district's vascular surgery unit, the mortality rate had fallen to 40 per cent.

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Protesters' final attempt to halt pipeline

By Charles Knevill

Conservationists in Snowdonia National Park have launched a last-minute attempt to prevent the Central Electricity Generating Board from building a mile-long pipeline, costing £3.6 million, between Cwm Dyli and Llydaw.

Mrs Eirke Kirby has written to Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Wales, calling for an immediate public inquiry to stop the board from replacing an existing double pipeline with a new one, 4 ft in diameter and placed on a 2 ft high concrete cradle, above ground.

Mrs Kirby and Mr Rod Hackney, president of the Snowdonia National Park Society who is also president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, met Lord Marshall of Goring, the board's chairman, and officials last month, to ask him to bury the new pipe.

They were told that this would cost an additional £2.2 million, substantially damage the landscape and incur engineering difficulties.

Mrs Kirby says in her letter that she proposed "with the best of intentions" to remove the pipeline and that it is "regrettable" that it should pay for itself in six years rather than four, the proposed period for the existing plan.

The society, which has more than 3,000 members, has taken legal advice. It has been told that either the pipeline must go underground or be considered "unlawful development".

Three eminent ecologists have said that the board's claim that burying the pipeline would cause permanent scarring was nonsense.

The protesters point out that the board buried a whole power station, Dinorwic, inside a mountain only five miles away, so "it seems rather absurd that they cannot bury a 4 ft pipe for little

more than a mile across rough mountain land."

Work has already started to remove the existing pipeline, and the new one will start to be installed next month.

Snowdon is the highest and generally regarded as the finest mountain group in England and Wales.

Mrs Kirby once held the record for traversing all 14 peaks in Wales over 3,000 ft.



Mrs Kirby yesterday between the twin pipelines which the board wants to replace (Photograph: Barry Greenwood)

She used to lead 3,000 sheep and still keeps "one foot in the midden".

She has also protested against alleged irregularities in the way permission was granted to the board.

The National Park Plan states that "The CEGB are urged to remove the pipes" at this location, although an official of the park authority wrote to the board stating that

there were no objections to their plan.

Mrs Kirby says in her letter to Mr Walker: "Though work has already commenced on the scheme, it is not too late to order a local public inquiry or to inform CEGB that the pipes must be underground."

She said last night that hundreds of people had written to the board objecting to the pipeline. The board had

started to reply to the objections with a "puerile" letter on its position.

The issue is certain to be the main topic of debate when the society holds its annual dinner tonight.

Mr Hackney said: "The Snowdonia National Park Society is not scared in this case. We have money. The countryside is more than that."

Weekend food prices

Lamb is cheaper as beef joints go up

Lamb prices have fallen sharply and the prediction for the rest of the month is that prices are expected to be lower than a year ago. This week whole leg is an average £1.96 a pound, compared with £2.22 in the same week last year.

Whole shoulder is an average £1.15 a pound but Sainsbury is selling it at 76p this week. Bone shoulder is about £1.90 and best loin chops are down 20p to £3.

Beef prices show varying regional trends and on the whole roasting joints are up slightly but beef mince is a little cheaper than last week. Pork, normally the most stable meat, shows a slight increase in some cuts. The average price of whole leg is £1.07 and boned shoulder is £1.27. These small increases are offset by some excellent supermarket offers

such as Sainsbury's down 24p a pound. Spare ribs are great value at 89p at Asda and John's at £1.08 at Sainsbury.

The biggest suppliers of good quality fresh fish are ensuring that prices are either down or at least stable. However mackerel and cod are not so plentiful in some areas. There have been good landings of cod, lemon sole and hake. Kebabs of monk fish at £3.60 a pound and scallops about 50p each make a delicious combination for the barbecue. Steaks of tuna fish, king fish and sword fish could be another alternative, all retailing at about £5.20 a pound. Among the best buys are huss £1.45, plaice fillets £2.50, whole plaice £1.30 and lemon soles £2.45.

Peaches are selling at between 5p and 25p each but the kilo punnets are superb value at 70p to £1 a basket containing 10 to 14 fruits. The first English raspberries are understandably quite expensive at 90p to £1.20 a quarter pound.

Salad ingredients are abundant with lettuce from about 17p to 25p each, iceberg 30p to 50p and cress and crisp at 30p-45p. Home-grown cauliflower at 35p-60p each are top quality.

Some meat and poultry offers on promotion are: Tesco fresh chicken thighs and drum sticks at 89p a pound; Asda home-produced fresh minced beef and home-produced pork spare ribs also at 89p; Sainsbury frozen home-produced mince beef at £1.38; and Bejam roasting chicken at 39p a pound.

£250,000 for 'Merry Cabinet'

SALEROOM
by Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent

An historic Louis XIV marquetry cabinet fetched nearly £250,000, more than double the estimate, in spirited bidding at Christie's yesterday.

The piece is named the Merry Cabinet after Mr James Merry, MP for Falkirk Burghs from the 1850s to the 1870s, and a successful horse owner, who reportedly bought it from the proceeds of winning the Derby in 1860.

However, its true value comes from the fact that it may have come from the collection of Cardinal Mazzini.

An inventory of 1661 records "two cabinets decorated with birds, flowers and insects in marquetry, made by Pierre Gole, cabinet maker to the French king. The Merry Cabinet shares many features with another by Gole in the Wallace and Albert museum. "Rosati Lee bid in partnership with Partington Fine Art for the cabinet. The furniture world awaits the fortunes of Sotheby's prize item today, a large Louis XIV table estimated at £1.3 million.

Robinsons, of Knightsbridge, twice broke the record for Alexis Alexievitch Harlamov, the nineteenth-century Russian, whose previous highest sale was about £30,000.

"Roses", a painting of a girl holding a bunch of the same, fetched £57,200, while his painting of a girl carrying a basket with a bottle of wine fetched £50,600.

The auctioneer was taken by surprise by the £23,100 paid by Angela Neville, the London dealer, for the Australian School painting, "The P.O. Steamship 'Malta' off Moore's Wharf, Sydney", which was estimated at a paltry £2,000.

Back at Christie's, a private buyer paid £22,000 (estimate £15,000) for a "dumpy, dark, glass bottle with shallow punt" of Château-Lafite bottled in 1811, "probably the most renowned vintage of the nineteenth-century, indeed arguably of all time".

Sotheby's raised just over £1 million from the sale of the first part of the library of Mr Philip Robinson, the younger of two brothers who ran the William H Robinson book shop in Pall Mall from the 1930s to the 1950s.

The sale followed that of Liogel, his brother and colleague, in 1986.

Top lot at the sale was £176,000 for the Strachey Papers, the correspondence of the secretary to the British commission set up to restore peace in America at the time of the War of Independence. Meanwhile, changes abound in Bond Street with the opening yesterday of the five-storey David Messum Gallery, devoted to "British Impressionism", opposite Sotheby's, and the closing of Wilma Wayne Fine Art today.

Parents ignore measles epidemic

50,000 affected by epidemic

By Thomson Practice Science Correspondent

Parents are ignoring warnings from health experts to have their children immunized against measles in spite of an epidemic this year which has killed at least six infants.

About 50,000 cases of the illness have been reported so far this year in England and Wales, compared to 20,000 for the same period of 1987. Up to 3,500 children a week are developing symptoms.

The Department of Health and Social Security has said a

second wave of the epidemic is likely to hit the country in the next few weeks. Most children under five years of age are at risk, health experts say today in The Lancet.

It is estimated that these children are protected as soon as possible after their first birthday. Older children not previously vaccinated should also receive measles vaccine.

Only 71 per cent of British children are immunized against measles, compared to a DHSS target of 90 per cent. This is largely because the

epidemic is not confined to England. It is spreading to Scotland and Northern Ireland. Most children under five years of age are at risk, health experts say today in The Lancet.

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When James Hector's first mission into Temp 40 years ago, the pr British Ambassador to Germany, Sir Christo Mallory, was only a w Ambassador, a mere ba arms. So when the tw arena spoke forth from some airfield yesterday noon on the significance of World's first peaceful v over Soviet ambitions, i Santa Anna, Lieutenant retired, should hav some more personal tho True, he agreed with times test of Berlin was new", but for Colonel Anna the airlift had a s cases that ambassadors Colonel Santa Anna ha leading Berlin, Dresde much as a first lew made up for what I did 177 nations in the airi the 919 to Berlin yes

Boost for reform in Hungary

Communists choose first non-party man for President's job

By Anatol Lieven

The Hungarian Communist Party has chosen a non-Communist scientist as Head of State, according to sources in Budapest. Professor Bruno Straub, aged 74, a distinguished zoologist, is deputy chairman of the Hungarian Academy and chairman of the Environmental Council. Since 1985 he has been an "independent" member of Parliament.

He will be formally approved by the Hungarian Parliament in a three-day session beginning next Wednesday. He will replace Mr Karoly Nemeth, who was voted off both the Politburo and the Central Committee at the party conference last month which replaced Mr Janos Kadar, the veteran party leader, with the Prime Minister, Mr Karoly Grosz.

Professor Straub, born in 1914 in Oradea, in what is now Romania, will be the only head of state in Eastern Europe who is not a party member and is expected to hold the post until 1990, when a new constitution is planned. With Parliament insisting more and more on its right to control legislation, the political importance of the Presidential Council will decline. However, Professor Straub's nomination is thought to be of considerable symbolic importance, and will strengthen the forces of reform.

Some observers had expected a pause while the new leadership waited for the results of the Soviet Communist Party conference beginning on

June 29. It now seems that Mr Grosz intends to push ahead with reform.

Among other important changes which Parliament is expected to ratify next week, prominent reformist academics will become Ministers of Culture and Justice.

These changes will strengthen the hands of the more radical reformers around the Politburo member Mr Imre Pozsgay, who is thought likely to get a post approximating to Deputy Prime Minister, with responsibility for reform. Mr Pozsgay is leader of the Patriotic People's Front, the umbrella organization embracing the Communist Party and non-Communist groups.

The non-Communist groups have had only a weak existence. Mr Pozsgay has been trying to revive them as part of a move towards reform and greater pluralism. Some reformers hope that the "fronts" might become more like genuine coalitions of ideologically differing groups.

Party sources say that these possibilities are being discussed at Politburo level. The appointment of a non-party member as President of Hungary clearly points in a similar direction.

Mr Nemeth, replaced by a non-party member.

logically differing groups. Party sources say that these possibilities are being discussed at Politburo level. The appointment of a non-party member as President of Hungary clearly points in a similar direction.

● MOSCOW: In one of the boldest nationalist appeals ever issued by an official Soviet group, unions representing writers and other cultural figures in the republic of Latvia have called on Moscow to make the republic "a sovereign state" within the Soviet Union (NYT reports).

The cultural leaders demanded that Latvia be allowed to have separate representation at the United Nations and the Olympic Games, to control its own press and foreign travel procedures, to forge closer ties with Latvians abroad, and to assert greater control over military and secret police activities.

● Party protest: About 10,000 people gathered in Kuibyshev, on the Volga River, to demand the removal of their Communist Party leader, dissidents said (Reuters reports). They also complained that the regional Party First Secretary, Mr Yevgeny Muraviov, was not worthy to represent them at next week's party conference in Moscow.

Mr Yuri Mityunov, spokesman for the Democratic Union opposition group, said the protesters gathered in the central square on Wednesday and cited food shortages as the reason why Mr Muraviov and his deputy should resign.

Garlands for royal visitors



King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain donning leis at a resort near Honolulu. They stopped in Hawaii for two days after an 11-day official visit to Australia and New Zealand.

Iran agrees to embassy payments

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Correspondent

Iran yesterday accepted a revised British proposal for annual compensation for damage to each other's embassies.

Minor details remained to be settled, but Whitehall sources predicted formal agreement would be notified by an exchange of diplomatic messages within a week. The

sources said Iran had accepted a British demand that the £1.8 million it is to pay in instalments should be linked to progress on rebuilding the Iranian Embassy in London.

The aim was to demonstrate that the money was not a down payment for a future hostage ransom. But Britain agreed to Iranian wishes for the payments to be fewer and larger.

There will be only three instalments instead of the 20 Britain first proposed. Both countries will pay in their own currencies.

● PARIS: The new Iranian Ambassador to Paris is to be Mr Ali Ahani, and his French counterpart in Tehran is to be M Christian Gruffat, it was announced here and in Tehran yesterday.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Canberra reviews Queen's veto

Sydney — A body reviewing Australia's Constitution is considering abolishing the Queen's residual power to veto Australian laws. However, the recommendations by the Constitutional Commission would not affect the Queen's role as Australia's head of state (Christopher Morris writes).

Sir Rupert Hamer, a member of the commission and former Premier of Victoria, said that the study's final review was intended to clear out "dead wood" in the Constitution. He said: "The Queen's power to nullify an Act up to a year after it has been passed has never been used in Australia as far as I know. We are looking at it on the basis of redundancy. A final decision will be made next week."

The Queen's reserve power became virtually inoperable when she signed the Australia Act in Canberra, in January 1986, and the complementary British Act later the same year. The Acts abolished her power to withhold assent or disallow state laws and ended appeal to the Privy Council. This left the British Government with no further legal recourse in its fight against publication in Australia of Mr Peter Wright's book *Spycatcher*.

● PILGRIM DEATHS ARREST: Prosecutors ordered a trinket seller to be detained yesterday after reports that a fire which killed 48 pilgrims in southern Egypt started in his tent. As investigations continued into the blaze which broke out early on Wednesday, the newspaper *al-Masara* reported that a newborn girl had been found alive among the debris hours after firemen brought the flames under control.

The fire destroyed about 300 tents of Christian and other pilgrims celebrating a religious festival at the walled al-Muharrak monastery near Assiut, 250 miles south of Cairo. Many of the victims were children trampled to death.

Games fraud charges

Seoul — South Korean police have arrested 15 people, including government and ruling party officials, on charges of bribery and graft in the purchase of equipment for Olympic Games venues (Gavin Bell writes). A special fraud squad accused Mr Yang Chae Won, president of a machinery company, of embezzling more than \$500,000 from profits reaped by his firm from the illicit deals. Of that amount, he is alleged to have distributed almost £150,000 in bribes to secure Olympic contracts for electrical appliances.

Malta ship blockade

Valletta (Reuters) — Dockyard workers towed a tanker across the mouth of the Grand Harbour here yesterday in a protest against Saturday's planned visit by British warships — including the Ark Royal — allegedly carrying nuclear weapons. Witnesses said that they used two tugs to tow the 80,000-tonne American tanker *Copper Mountain* across the harbour entrance, completely blocking it.

They said about 200 workers on board the tanker and on the tugs acted after being addressed by Malta's Labour Party opposition leader, Mr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici.

Pentagon bribery scandal

'Staggering fees' paid

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The investigation into the burgeoning Pentagon bribery scandal is now looking at the possibility of collusive bidding by contractors and manipulation of bid specifications as well as charges that consultants were selling inside information to contractors.

Mr Melvin Paisley, a former senior aide to Mr John Lehman, the former Navy Secretary, has emerged as a key figure in the investigation. The *Los Angeles Times* yesterday said that after leaving office, Mr Paisley had arranged an elaborate scheme under which high-level Pentagon officials smuggled documents to him which he and his wife copied.

The paper, quoting government sources, said Mr Paisley passed these on to McDonnell Douglas, the major contractor, who paid him "staggering fees" on retaining him as a consultant.

The paper named Mr James Gaines, the Deputy Assistant Navy Secretary who was one of five Pentagon civilian employees reassigned to other duties on Tuesday, as the main person who supplied the documents to Mr Paisley.

Mr Gaines is now reported to be co-operating with investigators, although a promise of leniency has not yet been

made. Another key figure, Mr Victor Cohen, is negotiating with the Government on his co-operation.

Mr Paisley's wife, Vicki, has been employed by one of the top US defence contractors, BDM International, since 1983. The firm, which is not being investigated, said it saw no conflict of interest in employing her. Federal agents have subpoenaed its records.

Mr Casper Weinberger, the former Defence Secretary, has warned America not to overreact to the scandal. Voicing concern at the reaction by Congress and the public, he said: "You don't close a bank because there's a bank robbery."

His warning followed a briefing to Congress by Mr Henry Hudson, the chief prosecutor, who said the scandal involved as many as 50 consultants and 100 defence contractors worth tens of billions of dollars. He said any indictments could be returned by late August or, more probably, later in the year after the November elections.

Mr Weinberger said the need for a strong defence remains despite "the actions of some faithless employees". He said contract procedures were correct, and he had no apologies to make for his

management style while he was Secretary of Defence. He was regularly briefed on weapons programmes, "but no matter how careful you are, you're not going to be able to eliminate dishonesty."

Congressmen expressed alarm and outrage at the scale of the affair. "We have a substantial scandal on our hands," said Representative John Dingell, Democratic chairman of the House of Representatives energy and commerce committee.

Senator John Warner, the senior Republican on the Senate armed services committee, said that any contracts tainted by the investigation might have to be resubmitted to fresh bidding, threatening delays in important defence programmes.

Mr Jim Wright, the Democratic Speaker of the House, has angrily denounced earlier talk that Congressmen were involved in the scandal. He said the inquiry had so far not produced any subpoena, wiretap or search warrant directed at a member of Congress.

Five House members have been linked to the investigation in leaks called "reprehensible" by Mr Hudson. But he has refused to confirm that no congressman was a direct target of the investigation.

Undimmed memories of the airlift that saved Berlin

From Robert Fisk, West Berlin

When James Hector Santa Anna flew his first Dakota airlift mission into Tempelhof 40 years ago, the present British Ambassador to West Germany, Sir Christopher Mallaby, was only a school boy, Mr Richard East, the US Ambassador, a mere babe in arms. So when the two diplomats spoke forth from the same airfield yesterday afternoon on the significance of the West's first peaceful victory over Soviet ambition, it was perhaps only natural that Mr Santa Anna, Lieutenant-Colonel retired, should have had some more personal thoughts.

True, he agreed with Mr East that Berlin was "the litmus test of Soviet openness", but for Colonel Santa Anna the airlift had a significance that ambassadors might scarcely grasp. For in 1945 Colonel Santa Anna had been bombing Berlin, Dresden and Munich as a first lieutenant and then B17 pilot of the 486th bomb group based at Sudbury in Suffolk, killing the very people whose countrymen he was later to help save. As he put it yesterday: "Yes, we knew we were killing civilians — we knew it was the policy; so when I was taking part in the airlift I felt within me a feeling of 'Well, now I hope I can make up for what I did.'"

Colonel Santa Anna flew 127 missions in the airlift and his trip to Berlin yesterday

was his first since he took his last supply run into the blockaded city on January 17, 1949. "I never saw Berlin at the time," he said. "We had no time to leave the airport. So I never saw what we had done to Berlin. But many of us who had flown combat missions felt the same as I did, that we were somehow..." There was a silence. Were he and his colleagues all perhaps assuaging those feelings of guilt? He nodded. "I was a military officer — I did what I was told — it was the only thing we could have done to stop the war. But I thank God I was not on the ground to see the casualties I had caused."

Colonel Santa Anna — great-great-grandson of the brother of the Mexican general who captured the Alamo — watched the diplomats arrive at Tempelhof yesterday on board a 1944 Dakota, a small, grey-haired man in a blue suit who scarcely matched the dapper young ambassadors who stepped from the plane to greet six other veterans of the airlift. The diplomats spoke, of course, about the airlift's current relevance. "The memories of the events of 40 years ago may have dimmed," Sir Christopher wisely announced, "but the lessons should not be forgotten." Yet there was nothing dim about Colonel Santa Anna's memories; al-

though the lessons he had learnt were simple ones.

"It was worth it — when I saw the faces of those Berliners each time we came in with our supplies, I knew it was worth it. The Berliners unloaded our planes, patched up the runway, kept the radars operating. I will always remember their faces and the way they thanked us."

"We did not really recognize the political significance of what we were doing until two months later. We had not been briefed. I had just flown to Massachusetts from Europe and my operations officer said: 'Go to Frankfurt within 24 hours — you're on the airlift.' I was told it would only last 60 days, not 16 months."

Today Colonel Santa Anna will meet up to 100 of his former airlift colleagues in West Berlin and then cross the Wall to visit the East. "I want to see it — it's the real significance of the airlift, because we stopped West Berlin becoming like East Berlin when the Russians wanted us out of Germany. What we did was a good thing. Because at last we were helping people — we all felt this great irony in 1948, that we had been bombing Germans only three years before. I'm a person who likes history and reads a lot of history — and I keep thinking 'how stupid we are, we never learn.'"

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New Prime Minister tackles economic ills

Vietnam looks for outside help

Hanoi (AFP) — Vietnam should look first to Eastern bloc countries for support in efforts to overcome economic difficulties, Mr Du Muoi, the country's new Prime Minister said here yesterday.

Vietnam was seeking investment from both socialist and capitalist countries, but it should first look to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, Mr Muoi told a news conference the day after being elected by 60 per cent of the 496-member National Assembly. The economy was facing difficulties, he added. The reasons were well known and they were temporary.

Mr Muoi emphasized the need for using the capitalist economic system in building the country's economy, adding that the Government

would soon issue resolutions for small businesses and artisans and give more autonomy to production and business.

Some Vietnamese officials, particularly in the south where the private sector is growing rapidly, fear that Mr Muoi's election as Prime Minister will discourage Western investors.

Aged 71 and a specialist in economic relations with the Eastern bloc, Mr Muoi was responsible for a failed policy of social transformation in south Vietnam from 1976 to 1979. Many southerners had hoped that a rival candidate, Mr Vo Van Kiet, aged 66, a southerner seen as a reformist, would be elected.

All the Vietnamese leaders favour reforms, but there are differences on how extensive they should be and how fast



Mr Muoi: His election could delay Western investment. They should be introduced, analysts said.

depend on political will and on indispensable help from outside, he added. The Vietnamese leadership were carrying out reforms in a difficult situation and it was not easy to pass from the old management methods to new ones.

The new system was aimed at ending state subsidies and making state-owned companies responsible for their profits and losses.

On the political front, Mr Muoi said he favoured a widening of democracy while resolutely retaining a dictatorial attitude towards the enemy, reactionaries and delinquents.

Young people should play a decisive role in developing the country and in political reforms, he added.

Informed sources said that

Mr Muoi's image as a strong character had gained him the necessary support within the Communist Party to enable him to win Wednesday's election. It was the first time the prime ministerial post had been put to an assembly vote.

Mr Kiet did not have the support of Mr Nguyen Van Linh, the Communist Party Secretary-General, although they share the same views on reform, the sources said. Mr Linh felt Mr Kiet was not firm enough, they added.

One diplomat said that the election of Mr Muoi signalled the absence of a charismatic Vietnamese leader. But Mr Muoi's small majority indicated that the younger generation was exerting strong pressure for change, the diplomat added.

Khmer Rouge obstruct road to peace

By John Pedler

In the wake of the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan, Vietnam's carefully timed announcement on the eve of the Moscow summit of a withdrawal of 50,000 troops from Cambodia put a unilateral Vietnamese withdrawal on the cards — whatever this declaration turns out to mean in practice. So the Chinese-armed Khmer Rouge are now generally perceived as a greater obstacle to peace in Indochina and stability in South-East Asia than the Vietnamese occupation, which for eight years now has so alarmed the South-East Asian nations.

American thinking is fast evolving. Although public opinion still perceives Indochina as a "cesspool of war", the State Department forges a public outcry if the US were to stand idly by while the Cambodian Army, even beefed up with the rump of the Vietnamese occupation forces, crumbled in face of a Khmer Rouge offensive — an offensive that intelligence sources expect will be launched with Chinese

arms which have already been stockpiled for the purpose.

China yesterday attacked as "irresponsible" and "utterly groundless" a report in *The Washington Post* that Peking was willing to offer asylum to the former Cambodian leader, Pol Pot.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman denied that China's policy over Cambodia had changed, after reports that Peking might end its support for Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge.

Privately though, Chinese officials are now insisting that China does not want a Khmer Rouge government; Pol Pot's "Democratic Kampuchea" had made "rather many errors" — the euphemism for the murder or starvation of at least one million people of a population of eight million between the fall of Phnom Penh in 1975 and the Vietnamese invasion in 1979.

These officials say that China does not now insist on a "socialist" (i.e. communist) Cambodia and might well be prepared to "distance" Pol Pot and some of his more genocidal cronies from the scene (as the Prime Minister, Hun Sen, has demanded).

But, they emphasized, the Vietnamese would not now be seeking an exit if the Khmer Rouge had not borne the brunt of the guerrilla war against them for the last eight years. Were the Khmer Rouge to turn off the pressure now, they claimed, the Vietnamese would stay.

A Vietnamese diplomat with whom I discussed this, pointed to the corollary: how could Vietnam withdraw soon and totally if the Khmer Rouge threatened a comeback?

For geographical reasons, no regime responsible for southern Vietnam could tolerate a hostile Cambodia. The Americans had not been able to, and had invaded in 1970 just as Vietnam had been obliged to intervene in 1979.

One hope put forward is that the Soviet Union, which Mr Mikhail Gorbachev insists has embarked on a Pacific "trouble spot" policy since Afghanistan, and the United States — hopefully with European co-operation (for Cambodians both in and out of Cambodia want France, in particular, involved) — will act as brokers to arrange a full Vietnamese withdrawal

in return for the demilitarization of the Khmer Rouge.

At the summit, I understand, the Americans assured the Russians that the US did regard the Cambodian problem as important and wanted substantive exchanges of views.

But, the Americans point out, the US has no leverage with the Khmer Rouge, and even a total cut-off of Chinese military aid and a refusal of Thailand to continue acting as a conduit, would not necessarily bring these fanatical guerrillas to heel. Moreover, the US could not act over Indochina without carrying along the South-East Asians. The Russians, insist that the Soviet Union's influence is likewise limited: ultimately the Vietnamese would do what their security interest dictated.

Cambodian exiles claim that, since the Moscow summit, the real nature of their country's problem is far better understood by East and West alike — and all the powers appear now to prefer peace in Indochina, and stability in South-East Asia, to the present dangerously grumbling appendix of the war.

Tracing the birth of Rome



Archaeologists uncovering a wall found in a dig at the oldest part of the Forum in Rome. The excavation found evidence to support the idea that Rome was founded in about 753 BC, but there is no proof of the existence of Romulus, the legendary founder of the city.

Boat people under fire

Refugees face brutality in 'open season' for pirates

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Refugees escaping from Vietnam are suffering from increasingly brutal attacks by pirates and people on shore, according to Western aid officials in southern Thailand and Malaysia.

One official who describes the situation as "open season for pirates" says it has resulted from tough new measures in South-East Asia to stop refugees landing.

Pirate attacks in the Gulf of Thailand have declined over the past seven years but show signs of increasing, and the pirates have become more brutal. There were no deaths from pirate attacks last year, but more than 40 refugees have been killed in the first five months of 1988.

Nine boatloads of refugees arriving in Malaysia in recent weeks after being pushed out to sea by Thai naval vessels have given horrifying accounts of their ordeal. All but one of the vessels were attacked by pirates, one boat being trapped between gun and knife attacks by pirate vessels and gunfire from the Thai shore.

The boat, with 79 people on board, was forced away from the Thai coast in southern Thailand but later landed on the Thai coast as it was sinking. After being held in custody, the Vietnamese on board were put into two other boats by Thai police, towed out to sea and directed towards Malaysia.

When an engine broke down the boats turned back to the coast, but people on shore fired on them with automatic rifles. Heading again for the open sea, they encountered 20 Thai fishing boats whose crews threatened to board with knives and hammers.

Reversing again, they were hit for a second time by gunfire from the shore. The Thais then towed them out to sea with a police escort. But after the police left, pirates on

six boats returned to rob them and raped six women, who were abducted.

Another boat, leaving Vietnam on May 5 with 27 refugees, was robbed by Vietnamese fishermen and two days later rammed by a Thai fishing boat. The vessel capsized, throwing the refugees into the sea, where they were hit with poles and slashed with knives. Only two survived.

Because Thailand will not now allow United Nations officials to go to the coastal areas concerned, the UN cannot monitor pirate attacks and anti-pirate operations. Some Western officials point out

One boat was trapped between pirates and gunfire from the shore

that the agreement under which Western nations finance the anti-piracy programme requires monitoring by the UN, but Thailand says that the presence of UN officials is a magnet for other Vietnamese.

The UN acknowledges that Thailand is conducting a vigorous anti-piracy programme. Nineteen suspects have been arrested this year, compared with 18 in 1987. Since 1982 more than 50 Thais have been jailed for terms ranging from three years to 50 years for piracy and rape.

A senior Thai Foreign Ministry official denies that boat people have been fired on from shore, but he said that refugees were being "encouraged" to stay away from Thailand. Any Vietnamese who does land is sent to a camp on the Cambodian border and is not eligible for resettlement elsewhere.

The Bangkok office of the United Nations High Com-

missioner for Refugees has refused to comment on the reported attacks on refugees.

Two months ago the UNHCR and the Thai Government signed a memorandum of understanding that Thailand would continue to provide first asylum for refugees, and the Foreign Minister assured the US that his country would continue its humane refugee policies.

American officials say that more than 100 refugees have died this year after being pushed away from the Thai coast.

Thai measures have reduced Vietnamese arrivals from nearly 2,500 in January to one in April and none in May, but arrivals this year have reached almost 8,000 in Hong Kong and 5,000 in Malaysia.

Last week Hong Kong began denying refugee status to newly arrived Vietnamese, who will be held in custody until they can be repatriated, and Malaysia is to close its main refugee centre on Bidong island in April.

Thailand and its partners in the Association of South-East Asian Nations want measures to meet this new situation. They are pressing for an international conference on Indochina refugees and will plead for urgent action when Asean foreign ministers next month meet their opposite numbers from the US, the EEC, Canada, Japan, Australia and New Zealand in Bangkok. Among measures they want to consider are the establishment of a holding centre for refugees, agreement by Western nations to admit an annual quota of refugees fixed for several years in advance, and a programme of voluntary repatriation, particularly for the Vietnamese.

Letters, page 15

Deceptive drama in Haiti

From Alan Tomlinson, Port-au-Prince

Opponents of Haiti's new military Government suspect that the coup which toppled the civilian President, Mr Leslie Manigat, may have been brought about by an elaborate piece of theatre.

Sources in the Haitian human rights movement believe that the Army may have feigned a split in its ranks to lure Mr Manigat into a politically fatal attempt to assert his personal authority.

A former official in the Manigat government and other sources with connections in the military regime believe that a split may indeed have existed, but that it was skillfully manipulated by powerful figures in the Army to bring the government down.

All the sources spoke on condition of anonymity, fear-

ing reprisals from the new regime, which has jailed a number of former Cabinet ministers and other Manigat associates.

Many observers here have noted with suspicion that the coup on Sunday night was carried out without a single casualty at any of four key locations — the residence where General Namphy, the armed forces chief, was supposedly liberated from house arrest by loyalists; the villa where the President was seized; the National Palace which General Namphy and his followers then occupied; and the main army barracks where a supposed ally of the President, Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, was said to have been besieged until he surrendered and made his peace with

the triumphant general, Haiti's new President.

The absence of any trace of combat and the apparent ease with which relations in the Army have been mended are fuelling the notion that some, if not all, of these actions were purely theatrical.

The intense gunfire heard for several hours is now widely believed to have been soldiers celebrating. "It was happiness," said one close Manigat associate.

Opponents of the military Government point to the Army's sustained deception in promising for almost two years to allow free and democratic elections. That illusion was shattered in November when soldiers and paramilitary thugs killed voters at polling booths.

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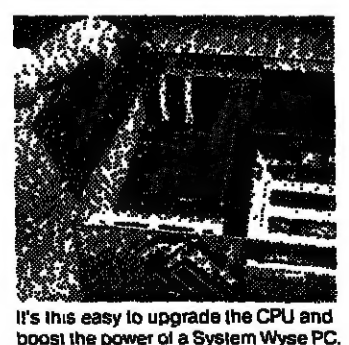
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Fundamentalist tactic in Pakistan

Zia ally says Islam law bars Benazir Bhutto from power

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

An Islamic fundamentalist leader aligned to President Zia has demanded that Miss Benazir Bhutto, head of Pakistan's main opposition party, be barred from contesting a national leadership election because a female candidate would contravene the country's new Islamic ordinance.

The announcement was made by the President of Pakistani Kashmir, Mr Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan. Observers said the announcement, although unlikely to be taken up by General Zia's regime, was probably a tactic to marshal fundamentalist forces against Miss Bhutto before the election, due this summer.

Mr Sardar Qayyum, who is regarded as a close friend of General Zia and an influential Islamic leader, raised the objection against a woman becoming head of an Islamic government at a time when political parties are pressing the Government to announce a date for parliamentary elections, which were necessitated by General Zia's dissolution

of the National Assembly on May 29.

He has not set a date for the elections, but according to constitutional experts the country should go to the polls within 90 days of the dissolution of the assembly — in other words before August 28.

The prospects for Miss Bhutto, leader of the Pakistan People's Party, had improved after the recent Supreme Court judgement which overruled General Zia's attempt to bar her party from the election because it had refused to register with the Government.

She has received an additional boost in recent days as many prominent MPs of other parties and members of provincial assemblies have defected to her party.

It was amid this gaining of ground by the PPP that Mr Sardar Qayyum introduced the religious objection to Miss Bhutto.

His timing is significant. Only last week General Zia promulgated an ordinance which declared *shariah* as the

supreme source of law in Pakistan and ground norm for guidance of policy-making by the state.

The ordinance empowers all superior courts in the country, assisted by *mujlis* with the rank of deputy advocates-general, to quash any existing law deemed contrary to the Koran, with the exception only of international and current internal fiscal agreements, policies and instruments.

Mr Sardar Qayyum said, under his interpretation of Islam, he would never accept Miss Bhutto as head of government.

He went on to urge General Zia to take an active part in politics, and said that while the Kashmir dispute with India continued it was inevitable that the armed forces should have a pre-eminent political role in Pakistan.

He claimed Miss Bhutto enjoyed only the support of "anti-Islam and anti-national elements" while General Zia stood for Islam and Pakistan.

Clampdown on Sind violence

From Zahid Hussain, Karachi

The Pakistani Government has imposed a governor's rule in Sind province after a virtual collapse of administration in the wake of ethnic violence engulfing almost all of the province.

General Rahimuddin Khan, aged 65, a retired former Chief of the Joint Staff committee of the Pakistan armed forces who was a junta member in General Zia's martial law rule, took charge as governor yesterday.

Some reports suggest that the new governor, a Mohajir migrant from Uttar Pradesh in India whose daughter is married to General Zia's son, might take stringent measures, including the banning of ethnic-based organizations, to control the violence. No caretaker Chief Minister will be appointed as General Rahi-

muddin reportedly has said he wants absolute powers.

Troops have moved into at least seven other towns in the province as ethnic violence between Urdu-speaking Mohajirs and Sindhis has spread from Hyderabad. At least eight more people have been reported killed since Wednesday, raising the death toll to 34 since the violence broke out on Saturday.

Armed groups have stopped buses along the national highway linking Sind with other parts of the country, and shot people belonging to the rival ethnic groups. The worst such incident took place on Wednesday near Hathri village where three bus passengers were shot dead.

Shootings, stabbings and arson were reported from all cities of the province. In

Hyderabad, which has been under a strict curfew for the last five days, the situation remains tense. At least 22 have been killed in Hyderabad since workers of Jeay Sind Front, a militant Sindhi nationalist organization, and Mohajir Qumi Movement, clashed on Saturday. It is the worst such violence in 40 years.

The Mohajirs are in majority in the cities and most of those killed in Hyderabad were Sindhis. In retaliation, the Sindhis have started killing Mohajirs in smaller towns and villages.

The appointment of a former army general who is a Mohajir as governor might further aggravate the situation. The Sindhis have long complained against army atrocities in the province.

Icecap practice for Antarctic trek



Members of the International Trans-Antarctica Expedition taking a rest break during a 1,560-mile practice trek across the icecap of Greenland. In the back row, from left to right: Dr Jean-Louis Etienne of France, Mr Victor Boyarsky of the Soviet Union, and Mr Keizo Funatsu of Japan. In the front row: Mr Geoff Somers of Britain, left, and Mr Will Steger of the USA. The dogged journey across Antarctica, conceived by Dr Etienne and Mr Steger, is due to start in August of next year.

Pope treads softly in Austria

From Roger Boyes, Vienna

President Waldheim, determined to break out of his international isolation, yesterday warmly welcomed the Pope to Austria for a five-day pilgrimage that will try to tread gently around the President's controversial wartime record.

Angry Jewish lobbyists have flown from the United States to dog the steps of Dr Waldheim as he courts the first important visitor to Austria since he was elected president two years ago.

Acknowledging that the Austrians were divided, Dr Waldheim turned to the Pope in a driving wind, and said: "We look to you Holy Father for reconciliation."

The Pope, unsmiling, speaking in accented German, said that his pilgrimage was designed to renew the faith of the Austrians and that it was, above all, a European mission: he wanted to make the Iron Curtain irrelevant by preaching to believers in neighbour-

ing Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

To underline the point about 60,000 Hungarians, 15,000 Croats and almost 15,000 Slovenians are flooding into Austria to hear the Pope. Prague has banned large Catholic excursions to Austria and has stripped down portraits of the Pope stuck to railway carriages by Polish pilgrims as they crossed through Czechoslovakia.

Meanwhile, Hungary and Yugoslavia have by contrast allowed their Catholics to cross the border with a minimum of bureaucracy.

The question of whether the Pope's trip legitimizes Dr Waldheim does not seem to bother the pilgrims from Yugoslavia, where many of the wartime Balkan atrocities were committed.

Dr Waldheim, a former Wehrmacht lieutenant, denies taking part, or even knowing of, crimes committed in the region. Two young Slovenians

who crossed the border on a free rail ticket, and living in a rain-soaked tent on the outskirts of Vienna, said yesterday: "The visit gives us hope that the Pope will travel to us, too, in Yugoslavia."

But Mrs Beata Klarsfeld, the Nazi-hunter, firmly established in a Vienna hotel opposite St Stephens Cathedral — convenient for scattering anti-Waldheim leaflets on the crowd during the papal Mass — was adamant yesterday that the Pope should not have met Dr Waldheim. "Waldheim was a willing cog in the wartime machine," she said.

The Pope, aware of the criticism from the Jewish community (and Mrs Klarsfeld) after he met Dr Waldheim in the Vatican last summer, is trying to maintain a careful balance during the pilgrimage.

His three scheduled meetings with Dr Waldheim are the minimum required by protocol

— hello at the airport, a diplomatic function, goodbye at the airport — and the prepared speech contains no particular warmth towards the President.

Moreover, a working kosher breakfast is scheduled for today with the Austrian Jewish community, and he will also pay tribute at the Mattheus concentration camp. The purpose of the Jewish meeting, however, is not so much to apologize for shaking hands with Dr Waldheim — the Pope after all has shaken hands with many people — as to head off a new bout of Austrian anti-Semitism.

The Jewish lobbyists — including at least two Rabbis from New York — are demanding that the Pope distance himself more plainly from Dr Waldheim. But, as one Vatican source confided yesterday: "The Holy Father has come to Austria to save the souls of the Austrians, not the reputation of Dr Waldheim."

The Angolan conflict

Cubans the key to peace talks

Cairo (Reuters) — South African proposals for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola will top the agenda at peace talks which start in Cairo today.

The two-day meeting of officials from Angola, South Africa, Cuba and the United States continues negotiations started in London last month to end the Angolan conflict and secure independence for South African-ruled Namibia.

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, said his Government had drawn up proposals for a withdrawal of the estimated 50,000 Cuban troops in Angola.

"The proposals were forwarded to the various parties a few days ago... they will form the starting point of the talks," he said after arriving in the Egyptian capital. The South African party flew the length of Africa to Cairo along a special diplomatic air corridor created for the trip. South African planes are normally prevented from flying over Africa by anti-apartheid sanctions.

Mr Botha was cautious

about prospects of progress, saying: "It is not possible to make an assessment of the chances of success."

Overshadowing the talks is a recent big advance by Cuban and Angolan forces towards the Namibian border. South Africa has repeatedly said that this could torpedo the peace process.

"This was a most serious matter from the South African Government's point of view," Mr Botha said. He added that he would certainly raise it at the talks. He was accompanied to Cairo by the South African Defence Minister, Mr Magnus Malan, and the armed forces chief, General Jannie Geldenhuys.

The South African proposals, believed to focus on a timetable for Cuban withdrawal, respond to an Angolan plan for a complete Cuban pull-out over four years. Pretoria wants a faster pull-out.

Angola and Cuba are seeking independence for Namibia under a United Nations plan and a withdrawal of South African troops fighting in southern Angola alongside UNITA rebels. The United

States, which wants both a Cuban pull-out and independence for Namibia, is acting as mediator. But American military aid to UNITA guerrillas gives Washington an ambiguous role.

South African army intelligence officers say that combined battalions of about 12,000 Cuban troops and Namibian nationalist guerrillas, supported by Angolan government forces, have advanced south close to the Namibian border.

Mr Botha would not comment on reports that South Africa has secured from Angola and Cuba a temporary halt to the advance as a condition for continuing the talks.

● LISBON: UNITA rebels said they blew up oil tanks and killed 28 government and Cuban soldiers in Angola (Reuters reports). A statement released here said commandos sabotaged an oil plant at Sova, in northern Zaire province, and ambushed troops near Cabinda, north of Sova.

● JOHANNESBURG: Two white South Africans alleged to have been involved in a failed commando raid by a

South African army unit into Botswana have been remanded in custody until July 6 (Michael Hornsby writes).

Mr Johannes Basson and Mr Theodore Hermansen face charges of attempting to kill three policemen and of committing acts prejudicial to the security of Botswana.

South Africa has admitted that the raid took place, justifying it as an "intelligence-gathering" operation designed to thwart infiltration by the African National Congress. But Pretoria denies that the two men were involved.

● Mine conflict: South Africa is facing the prospect of a damaging strike by black miners for the second successive year after the breakdown of wage negotiations between the Chamber of Mines and the miners' union.

The general secretary of the National Union of Mine-workers, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, has declared an official dispute with the Chamber of Mines. This means that a legal strike could be called within the next two months if a conciliation board fails to resolve the dispute.

Dhaka to hang heroin dealers

Dhaka — Five Pakistanis have been sentenced to be hanged by a special tribunal for trafficking in heroin, the first time Bangladesh has imposed the death penalty for drug offences (Ahmed Fazl writes).

Justice Ministry officials said that the sentences will be carried out swiftly to deter drug trafficking in Bangladesh. The judgement came less than a week after President Ershad's Government decided to institute the death penalty for drug trafficking.

The prosecution said the men had admitted smuggling more than 600 g of heroin on a flight from Karachi in 1986. Sources at Pakistan's embassy said they had not decided whether to appeal for mercy.

New posting for princess

Nairobi (Reuters) — Princess Elizabeth Bagaya, Uganda's outgoing ambassador to the United States, has received a new diplomatic appointment with the same status, Uganda's Foreign Ministry said.

Princess Elizabeth is being transferred to a European country. Her new posting will be announced after she calls on President Museveni.

Plotting guilty New York (AP) — Three dealers were convicted of plotting to ship military equipment illegally to Argentina, Iraq, the Soviet Union and Poland in the first racketeering prosecution in an arms export case.

Border alert

Gibraltar (Reuters) — A car bomb alert closed the border with Spain for several hours. Police said the car must at one time have contained guns and ammunition and the lingering smell alerted sniffer dogs.

Arms amnesty Sydney — Brigadier Stiveni Rabuka has declared a one-month amnesty for the handing-in of weapons which were part of the arms cache smuggled into Fiji.

Panda birth

Tokyo (Reuters) — The giant panda Huan Huan gave birth at Ueno zoo after being artificially inseminated.

Clues.

Across.

9. With all one's teeth, but unable to speak politely? (4-7).

12. Chief magistrate a Communist? That's shabby (3-5).

13. Once severely irritated (4).

15. Popular protest march takes a short time, we hear? (7).

16. Great pleasure from the French match? (7).

17. Is it constricting in S. America? No, Canada is worse (8).

19. Father takes a socially-acceptable wife from Cologne (4).

23. Brave, perhaps, to beg for hearing (5).

24. I bet mobs on the rampage made this area of devastation (4-4).

28. Bristling, but promise to send a few letters (6).

29. To a youngster, London without a teacher is a place of iniquity (7).

33. Regret one may find French vehicles here (3).

34. Decoration in song (5).

35. After grass, hard court may put you on this (4).

37. What a looker, say II (5).

38. Two notes reveal what's in store (4).

39. Antester concealed itself in a construction of cane (7).

42. Run away; after a point, take long strides (5).

43. Gather together for state service (4).

44. Clasp an old torch (4).

45. Willing to back girl's grievance (10).

Down to the left.

2. Lamenting collapse in coordination (9).

4. Mark the plan of action — one way to assassinate a character (5,7).

6. One offering no resistance to wonderful man on Clapham omnibus? (14).

8. Subdue modest knight (7).

9. Turned down as being less beautiful than before (5).

10. Naturalist's patch including the West Indies (6).

11. One that flies to meeting in America (3).

14. Call is close — there's nothing in it (5).

20. Here be dragons, of initially loathsome appearance (4).

21. He advised his son to get an overcoat and a sofa (12).

22. Combs out in full, such clever sequences of moves (12).

25. Ruth carried luggage for computer pioneer, some say (7).

26. Deserve to hear this hail (4).

31. Cat had pity for King Richard (9).

37. Final whistle at Twickenham coming up: he was first with a recording (6).

41. Repair colour of blood, taking oxygen (4).

Down to the right.

1. Boy Macbeth wanted to kill can feel shattered (7).

3. Utter obscurity of Humpty Dumpty's word for "that's enough of that subject" (15).

5. Suit-button is in need of repair or replacement (12).

7. Owner of a business, formerly a ploughboy? (11).

9. Keep battling in front of the trees, we hear — one way Churchill said we would defend our island (5,2,3,7).

12. Home protection that may make slightly heavy going? (4,6).

15. Grievously stunted, does he have a hand-to-mouth existence? (7).

18. A Scottish island gets hail (4).

27. One dried up French flower (5).

30. Children have morbid thoughts (5).

32. Check the way soldiers can go in and cope, for example (8).

36. Get back into the drizzle, say (6).

40. Man with a little list may be drunk, I'm told (2-2).

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Killer barbecues grip lotus land

From Charles Bremner
Los Angeles

No wonder most Californians stayed away from the primary voting earlier this month. They had too much else to worry about. The sun still smiles from Hockney-blue skies on the palm trees and swimming pools, but the pleasures of lotus land are giving way to anxieties that only Californians could imagine.

First, what do you do in the tanning capital of the world when tans are decreed dangerous? With the pallid look back and young women strolling with parasols for the first time since the Model T Ford, beaches and pools are acquiring the flavour of the sin.

Above all, from Malibu to San Diego, the one thing you do not want to be thought is a "sun bozo", the noisy sunworshiper who mindlessly fries his hide to once-fashionable mahogany. If you must do beachtime, you aim for the profile of the beach potato, the quiet type who pops to the shore for a discreet swim and sun bathe.

"Trying to draw attention to yourself in any way is uncool," says Mr Mitch Kahn, champion life-saver of San Clemente and expert on the new potato genre. "The more low profile you are the better." Even if the sun does not get them, plenty of other dangers lurk in wait for over-informed Southern Californians.

As you sit in the traffic jam on Santa Monica Boulevard, for instance, you can watch the electronic numbers click upwards on a huge billboard proclaiming

"smoking deaths so far this year in California". It topped 140,000 this week.

The driver may, of course, not reach home. The big one — the long-awaited California quake — failed to materialize last month in line with a prophecy by Nostradamus. Although San Andreas failed to fulfil the prediction, no one is taking chances. One pop station, K-ING, is running commercials for an "earthquake guide". "Don't wait till the shake starts. Be prepared." The jingle ends: "California is a great place to live despite its faults." Further reminders of mortality come in the act of buying petrol. Signs posted by law declare that lethal substances have been found in petrol.

Drowning your fears is no solution. The state government is on the verge of requiring every bottle of local chardonnay, or any other alcoholic beverage, to carry a "danger to health" warning.

For the few Californians who still eat sugar and starch, a trip to the *patiserie* is no solace. They, too, have this year been obliged to post warnings on the carcinogenic nature of some of their wares. Just as people thought every possible hazard had been spotted, the Los Angeles area quality management district this week revealed a new threat — killer barbecues.

It seems that the fashion for flame-grill is unleashing 10 tons of smoke particles and 2.5 tons of noxious gases into the skies every day, some of it, of course, carcinogenic. Citizens are being invited to report polluters by dialling a free phone number: 800-cut-smog. Californians have long put their heads

stack in monster traffic jams to good use. Some write books, others practise musical instruments or telephone their therapists. Soon they can add a new activity — cooking. An Illinois firm is planning to market in-car microwave ovens.

Given the new-found perils of living, it is no wonder Californians are always finding new ways to be polite to each other. Assistants in one Beverly Hills department store no longer say "Can I help you?" They prefer: "Are you having enough fun by yourself?"

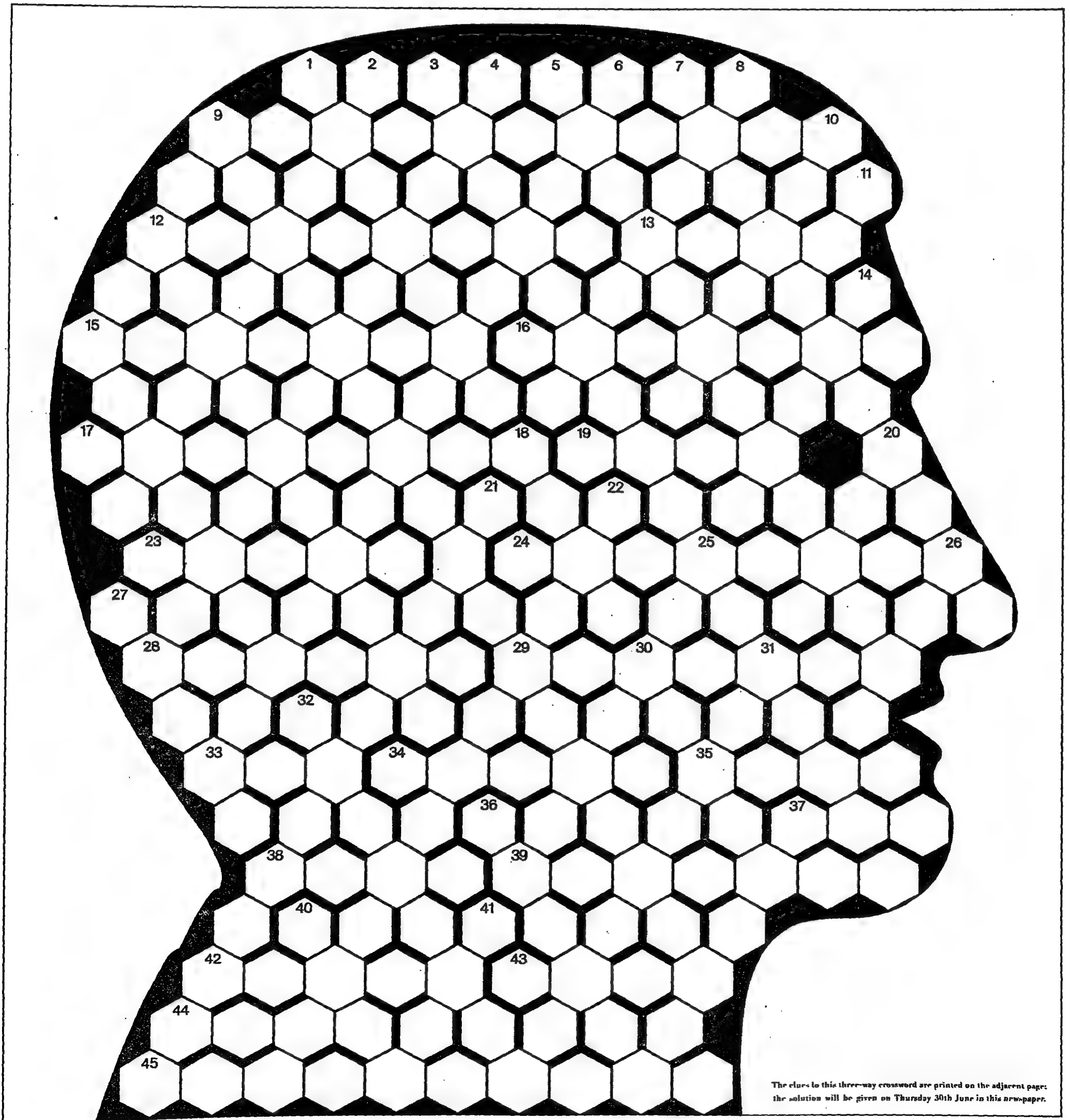
In the same vein, laundry delivery vans are driving around west Los Angeles with a notice on the back with a telephone number that says: "My boss wants to know if I'm speeding or driving badly. Call him." Some Californians try to do something about the agonies of life in the golden state by signing up with their local "self-help" group of choice.

If your problem is sarcasm, then you join Sarcastics Anonymous, or "Sar-canon" to the initiated. Others registered with the California Self-help Centre include the Pet Loss Bereavement Group, Oxygen Users Support Group, Alcoholics for Christ and the Ups and Downs (Manic-Depressives Anonymous).

No wonder some citizens occasionally think of ending their misery — the California way of course.

One poor woman confided to the *Los Angeles Times* last month that, what with medical bills and other costs, she could no longer make ends meet. "Sometimes I think of just rolling my wheelchair into the swimming pool," she said.

"I want IBM's new multi-system because it links up with all the other computers in my company." The harder clues in a crossword would be much more difficult to solve if you didn't have some of the easier answers in the grid to help you. It is the same with computers. Often in a large company, several departments will operate their own mid-range computer systems and PCs outside the mainframe. Think how much more useful they would be if they all worked together. They can. The IBM AS/400™ multi-system can link up with these 'computing islands': downwards to PCs, upwards to mainframes and even sideways to many other manufacturers' systems. That way, a company can incorporate all the investment represented by its existing hardware and software instead of scrapping it all once a new system is introduced. "I think, therefore IBM."



The clues to this three-way crossword are printed on the adjacent page; the solution will be given on Thursday 30th June in this newspaper.

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June 23 1988

PARLIAMENT

MPs worried by effect of higher interest rates

MPs expressed concern about interest rates, inflation and their effect on industry when the Prime Minister reported to the House on this week's economic summit in Toronto.

To the suggestion that higher interest rates would be a problem for industry, she said that industry would face a far bigger problem if there was a resurgence of inflation.

She gave details of the communiqué and praised the chairmanship of the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney.

Mrs Thatcher concluded her statement: The message from the Toronto summit was one of achievement and confidence in the future coupled with a commitment that the sound policies which have brought us success will continue and new progress will be made on current problems.

These are the policies which this Government has consistently followed for over nine years and as a result Britain has been able to give a lead in securing rising living standards and a better world.

Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, welcomed the further steps taken in combating terrorism, attacking the evil of international drug trafficking and punishing those who profit by such horrific trade.

He also welcomed the commitment to continue efforts to improve international economic policy co-ordination.

What would be the consequences of the commitment she had given in endorsing the objective to reduce spending in countries with large external deficits, particularly in Britain?

He noted with satisfaction, on debt rescheduling, that the communiqué urged countries to maintain high grant in assistance to some of the poorest countries.

Would she reverse the reductions in Britain's aid programme, which had been cut in half since she came to power?

Why had she insisted on weakening the summit statement on the Sharpville Six, diluting the efforts of others - including Mr Mulroney - to impose real pressure on Pretoria by including the threat of sanctions on apartheid?

Mrs Thatcher: It is much easier to get international economic policy co-ordination

PRIME MINISTER

when all members of the summit countries are running their economies in a sound way, which they are and have been, very similar to the policies we are running.

Our external deficit at present is smaller compared with our gross domestic product, very much smaller indeed, one of the smallest among all countries.

But I am very glad to hear that we have a convert to reducing public spending. Perhaps he will tell us where he is going to reduce it, is it all on defence? (Conservative cheers and laughter)

On the high grant allocation in aid to countries, a number of loans could not possibly have been repaid so it was better to be quite bold and give them that help in the form of grants.

No proposal for sanctions on South Africa ever came before the heads of government.

Sir Peter Horden (Horsesham, Ch) asked whether there had been any concern about the risk of inflation or a general agreement about increasing interest rates.

Mrs Thatcher said that there had been no general agreement to increase interest rates. There were a number of instruments for keeping down inflation and one of the most important was interest rates; another was keeping down public spending and deficits; and having a Budget surplus such as the Chancellor had.

One sentence in the communiqué referred to the need for continued vigilance to see there

was no resurgence in inflation. "We are aware of the problem and are taking steps to deal with it."

Mr Robert Maclean, joint leader of the SLD, asked why the Prime Minister had failed to draw attention to the historic imbalance of current accounts and the historic "yo-yoing" of exchange rates. Bearing in mind the disparity between Britain and West Germany, why was she so hostile to the co-ordination of central bank activity in her earlier reply to Dr Owen (see report below)?

Mrs Thatcher said that Dr Owen was not asking about co-ordinating central bank activities, but setting up a central European bank. That could be set up only if there was only one government in Europe.

With regard to the yo-yoing of inflation, Mr Maclean would agree that the evaluation of the yen was one of the very important things which led to reducing the external balance of Japan.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Attercliffe, Lab) in view of the deterioration in inflation and the importance she clearly attaches to short-term interest rate increases as a means of countering that, why did not she encourage discussions on co-ordinating interest rates?

Mrs Thatcher: The way in which we are dealing with international co-ordination is for each of us to run our economies in a sound way, each of us to have as our main objective keeping inflation down, each of us to try to reduce deficits - we have already reduced ours to nil - and keeping our spending on a

thoroughly sound basis, and also to have structural changes; among these to have tax incentives to enterprise.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C) said some people were concerned about interest rates, not least when they penalized industry, the main source of wealth creation. Was Mrs Thatcher concerned by the increasing interest rates in the United Kingdom which could cause a problem for UK industry?

Mrs Thatcher: It would cause a far bigger problem for industry if we got a resurgence of inflation. That would be far worse. The principal objective must be to keep inflation down.

A 1 per cent increase in wage rates costs industry four times as much as a 1 per cent increase in interest rates. Those who are complaining now have seen their wages and salaries of an average 8.5 per cent. It is better to complain about interest rate increases of half a per cent.

Mr Terry Baskery (Barnbury, C) said that in many of the sub-Saharan countries a large proportion of GNP was spent on arms to fight pointless civil wars. Could they not be prevailed upon to waste less of their money in this way?

Mrs Thatcher said that she understood the point, but many nations, such as Mozambique, had very real problems and had to have the means of resisting attacks. So they required a certain amount of training and help.

Mr Nigel Griffiths (Edinburgh South, Lab) said that people of all political views were distressed at her statement on Third World aid. For the first time Government aid had dropped below 0.3 per cent to 0.28 per cent, had dropped in the past year in starting terms by 2.8 per cent and in volume terms had fallen by 7 per cent.

There was widespread concern that the Government did not care about poverty in the Third World and was doing nothing to help.

Mrs Thatcher said that in absolute terms the Government's aid programme remained substantial. It was the seventh largest among western donors; it was of high quality and was directed to the poorest countries.

Aid was now growing in real terms, with the budget this year 5.7 per cent up on last year. In cash terms it was scheduled to grow 4 per cent compared with expenditure in 1987-88.



MP suggests swap for Waite

Mr Ronald Brown (Edinburgh, Leith, Lab) (above) appealed for the release of Iranian witnesses in British jails in exchange for the release of Mr Terry Waite, who was kidnapped last year in Beirut. If the recent parliamentary delegation to Iran was to have any chance of success, surely it was important to give some sort of concession such as releasing Iranian prisoners in this country. Some of them might have changed

their political views: those who were anti-Khomeini might have become pro-Khomeini. Some concession was necessary. Even the Council of Europe argued for an exchange of prisoners. Why could not this Government do it with the Khomeini regime?

"Something has to be done if you want Terry Waite to go free. Now is your chance."

Mr Douglas Hogg, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said that Mr Brown might care to bear in mind that there were 755 people in prison for criminal damage. That would make criticism from him wholly inappropriate on subjects of this kind.

"The idea that you bargain for the release of hostages is grotesque and absurd and I regret to hear it in this place."

Wales a 'coolie economy'

Wales was developing a "coolie economy", Mr Alan Williams, chief Opposition spokesman on Wales, said when opening an Opposition debate on deprivation and disadvantage in the principality.

He said that the quality of employment in Wales was falling, with high-value work being replaced by low-paid, low-skill, part-time and seasonal jobs. The sort of work easily engineered out in the next decade. The high-value work was over the other side of the Severn Bridge in England.

Men in Wales earned on average £2,500 a year less than

men in England and women £1,500 less. The gap was widening. Welsh MPs were fearful for the future in Wales.

Even the Valleys Initiative was going to have to be paid for from the budget of the Secretary of State already had for Wales. There was no new money. The Opposition was at one with the Secretary of State in wanting hope for the people of Wales, but it wanted real hope - not sickly hype and public relations mirage.

He moved a motion condemning Government policies and expressing concern at the widening gap between Wales

and the South of England.

He said that there was a strong contrast between the booming Wales of Welsh Office press releases and the way it appeared to those who lived there. Wales was the second poorest region of the UK. The symptoms of the North-South divide were well known in Wales which had them all.

Since this Government took office there had been an increase of 28 per cent in homelessness and record council house waiting lists. The Government itself estimated that a housing repairs programme would cost £1.25 billion.

'Legalize the soft drugs' call

An early debate on the legalization of soft drugs was called for during business questions by Mr Terry Banks (Newham North West, Lab).

He said that the real concern about such drugs was the criminality associated with the trade in their illegal use rather than the damage they caused to health.

A debate would give the opportunity to talk about de-criminalizing drug use. Surely they could do something about the surrounding criminal activities?

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, replied that he did not share Mr Banks's view on drugs. He could not offer a debate.

Acid rain costs up

The cost of the further work of fitting power stations with equipment to curb acid rain emissions ordered recently by the European Council of Ministers may add another 1½ per cent to the price of electricity by the year 2000, Mr Michael Spicer, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said in a written reply.

That was in addition to a similar amount representing the cost of plant that the CEGB had already agreed to fit to some of its largest coal-fired power stations with a capacity of 5,000 megawatts.

Mr Spicer said that the recent decision could require "retrofit" of three more existing power stations.

Safety plan for coaches

The Government has taken the initiative to get new inflammability requirements for coaches into an EEC directive, Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said in a written reply.

They would be made mandatory in Britain at the earliest opportunity. Plastic laminates used in coach interiors would have to meet fire resistance requirements laid down in the standard.

Cleveland case denial

Mr John Wakeham, Leader of the House, rejected a suggestion that Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord of Appeal, had announced the findings of the Cleveland child abuse inquiry in a speech in Lisbon. He said that the draft of the speech had been delivered to Lisbon in March, long before the report had been produced, so that it could be translated into Portuguese and other languages.

The report would be published early in July.

More stations

British Rail has opened 75 new stations and reopened 25 since 1979; closed 32; and plans to open or reopen a further 60 stations over the next three years. Viscount Davidson, deputy chief whip in the Lords, disclosed during questions in the House of Lords.

Ministers 'have lost control'

A 1 per cent increase in wages cost industry four times as much as a 1 per cent rise in interest rates, Mrs Thatcher said during question time when Mr Kinnock said that the Government had lost control of inflation. His remark was greeted with loud Conservative laughter.

Mr Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, said that after yesterday's rise in interest rates, Mr John Banham, Director General of the CBI, had said that it did not believe that the present medicine would have the desired results and would have serious side-effects.

"Does she think him wrong?" Mrs Thatcher. The most important thing is what the Chancellor said in the Budget statement: "Short-term interest rates remain the essential instrument of monetary policy. Within a continuous and comprehensive assessment of monetary conditions, I will continue to set interest rates at the level necessary to ensure downward pressure on inflation."

Mr Kinnock: She clearly thinks that Mr Banham and all who agree with him are wrong. It is obvious that the rise came because the Government was completely lost control (loud and prolonged Conservative laughter) ... They have completely lost control of credit.

Mrs Thatcher: If Mr Kinnock has no instruments of control how does he ever expect to get inflation down, but then of course, he never did.

LEAs 'will have to carry the can for governors'

Peers on the Labour, Social and Liberal Democrat and Independent cross benches complained that the Government was giving school governing bodies the power to make decisions on the employment conditions of teachers for which the local education authorities must "carry the can".

They said that the result was that LEAs could be surcharged if governors breached the employment laws on, for instance, fair pay.

However, on the third day of the report stage, a cross-party amendment to alter the Education Reform Bill was rejected by 131 votes to 91 - Government majority, 40.

Moving the amendment, Lord Morton of Sharncliffe, an Opposition education spokesman in the Lords, said that the Government was sending governing bodies off blindfold into

a most dangerous and unnecessary minefield. Lady Seear (SLD) said that the bill would shift responsibilities between the LEAs and the governing bodies. The Government wanted to go the whole hog and give governors full responsibility to run schools, but felt unable to do so and had left the responsibility with the LEAs.

Governors could make decisions on issues that proved to be illegal. But the liability would fall on the LEAs, which could be surcharged for errors made by the governors.

The Government, with its legal advisers, should sort out the issue.

Lady Hooper, Under Secretary of State for Education and Science, said that the Government would bring forward an amendment to clause 199, which deals with employment, to ensure there were consulta-



Lady Seear: Fears of split in responsibilities

tions between the LEAs and the governors and head teachers.

LEAs would still have the right to put forward names of

staff to governing bodies. The majority of LEAs which now had successful redeployment policies did not compel schools to take teachers they did not want.

Under the Opposition amendment, governing bodies would not be able to take key decisions on how the largest part of its budget - staffing costs - was spent.

The governors should have a crucial say in staffing numbers, appointments and, if necessary, dismissals.

Lord Morton said that the Opposition was not opposing the Government's plan to give governors; it just wanted to make sure it would work.

The only reason for having employment laws was to deal with situations that go wrong. The Government had missed the point wholly.

• The House of Lords sat on

Wednesday for the second night of a succession of early hours of today considering the Education Reform Bill.

The Opposition parties lost an attempt during the second day of the report stage of the Bill to prevent the imposition of a compulsory national curriculum in state schools before there were sufficient teachers and resources to cope with it. The amendment was rejected by 137 votes to 99 - Government majority, 38.

Lady Blackstone (Lab) had said that if the Government accepted the amendment, it would demonstrate its commitment to an orderly introduction of the curriculum.

Lord Kilmarnock (SLD) moved an amendment to allow parents to receive professional advice from teachers regarding approved examinations.

He said that for a head to ban

such discussions was an unwarrantable intrusion into the normal relationship between teachers and parents. He referred to the case at a school in Lewes, East Sussex, where teachers had been reprimanded by their head for trying to talk with parents about questions in a GCSE history paper to which they objected.

For the Government, Lady Hooper said that the GCSE examination would be reviewed shortly.

Schools had to be responsive to the wishes of parents and were encouraged to exercise the freedom they had to choose from a wide range of syllabuses, including 30 in history.

Parents had a right to access of relevant information, so the amendment was unnecessary.

The amendment was rejected by 79 votes to 13 - Government majority, 66.

Satellites could free frequencies for local TV

Broadcasting BBC2 and Channel 4 programmes via satellite could free present frequencies for more local television, Mr Timothy Renton, Minister of State, Home Office, said during question time.

He was defending a speech made the previous night by Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, about the future of television. Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, criticized Mr Hurd for making controversial speeches

on the subject outside the House, and then not answering questions in the House.

Mr Renton said that the service which British Satellite Broadcasting planned to launch next year would be an IBA service and would be regulated in accordance with the 1984 Act. Satellite services relayed via cable would be regulated by the Cable Authority.

"We are considering extending the authority's remit to all

non-DPS services 'uplinked' from the United Kingdom, whether or not relayed via cable.

We are pressing for effective agreements which will cover services 'uplinked' from Europe."

Mr Bruce Garslett (The Wrekin, Lab): The Home Secretary's speech last night will be greeted with dismay by everyone (Conservative protests) who believes that British public sector broadcasting is a model

that is admired throughout the world.

Can he explain the logic of a policy, which on the one hand is constantly criticizing the BBC and interfering with BBC television and ITV and on the other hand proposes to give such freedom for satellite television to Mr [Rupert] Murdoch?

Is it not an appalling prospect if the standards of the British press are to be employed for British broadcasting?

Mr Renton: The speech was excellent (Laughter) and I do not say that just because Mr Hurd is sitting beside me.

He explored some of the avenues which we could go down through the 1990s as we move into a different and changing ecology.

It was in that context that the Home Secretary explored the possibility - no more than the possibility - that the BBC and ITV might be relieved of some

of their public service obligations as satellite channels are launched, because they provide more competition and choice

Mr Robert Macdonald (Brentwood and Ongar, C): There is an argument, in a free market society, if consumers choose to pay for a particular service, that the level of control that is necessary over that service is not necessarily the same as that which applies to the present four channels, which are universally available.

Coal jetty measure adjourned

Much of the following report of a Commons debate on the North Killingholme Cargo Terminal Bill appeared in later editions yesterday.

Labour MPs representing mining constituencies were out in force in the Commons to protest against the measure. Their principal complaint against the private Bill was that the new facilities planned on Humberside would be used to import coal from overseas, including South Africa.

Some of them were still seeking to speak when the Bill was adjourned at 10pm. A minute before that time, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) refused to accept a motion from Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Scunthorpe, C) to close the debate and MPs will have to return to the Bill later.

When he moved the second reading, Mr Brown said that the Bill was necessary in order to reconstruct the jetty at North Killingholme. Associated with the jetty would be an aggregate terminal. The proposal would provide many jobs.

The Humber estuary was strategically located within the European Community and fav-



Mr Hardy: Bill is 'sordid link with South Africa'

ourably placed for industrial locations within the UK. More important, the new terminal was intended to divert traffic from Rotterdam.

Traffic would be of bulk commodities such as grain, coal, coke, aggregates, fertilizers and minerals.

If Labour MPs thought that defeating this Bill would prevent commodities coming to this country, they were wrong. At

present, commodities went to Rotterdam, and cargoes were transferred to smaller ships and brought to the UK.

The CEGB had an 800-acre site adjacent to the proposed cargo terminal. When built, any power station there would be served by its own jetty.

Mr Peter Hardy (Wentworth, Lab) said that the Bill went to the heart of Britain's trading, political and social problems. Labour MPs were implacably opposed to the Bill because it was a foolish duplication of existing port capacity. Developing energy reliance on imported materials was also foolish.

It was also a sordid Bill. There was the distasteful practice by which coal from South Africa was landed at Rotterdam and then came to this country described as Dutch coal.

The Bill would make the investment in the British coal industry worthless. He was not prepared to see the import of South African coal to replace British-mined coal, increasing demands made on British mines to compete with South African coal, and British miners had the cooties of Western Europe.

The port was being developed to respond to the opportunities privatization would create. He warned Conservative MPs and the Bill's sponsors that Opposition MPs were prepared to devote hours to this Bill.

Mr David Mitchell, Minister of State for Transport, said that it was conventional for the Government to take a neutral stance on private Bills. The Government had no objection in principle to the proposals in the Bill.

There were a number of petitioners against it who would have the opportunity to present their objections to the select committee which would be in a better position than MPs to examine the issues involved.

The Government did not believe in using limitations in port capacity as a non-tariff barrier to help the British coal industry. It was becoming so inefficient as no longer to need it.

Mr Anthony Lloyd, an Opposition spokesman, said that the South African regime was looking with greedy eyes at the CEGB, and hoped to buy into the power industry to guarantee import of its coal into Britain.

Parliament next week

The main business in the Commons next week will be: Monday: Housing Bill, completion of remaining stages.

Tuesday: Criminal Justice Bill, completion of remaining stages. Wednesday: Motions on Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and on Appropriation (No 2) (Northern Ireland) Order.

Thursday: Debate on foreign affairs. Friday: Debate on White Paper on Fair Employment in Northern Ireland.

The main business in the Lords is expected to be: Monday and Tuesday: Education Reform Bill, report, fourth and fifth days.

Wednesday and Thursday: Local Government Finance Bill, report, first and second days.

Friday: Motions on Northern Ireland Act 1974 (Interim Period Extension) Order and on Appropriation (No 2) (Northern Ireland) Order.

Parliament today Commons (9.30): Debate on policing in London. Lords (11): Firearms (Amendment) Bill, second reading.

Plea for the pub bombers rejected

The Home Secretary resisted pressure during Commons questions to set up an independent review into the case of the six people convicted of the Birmingham pub bombings.

Mr Douglas Hurd said that he had met on June 13 the Irish Ambassador who had repeated his country's concern about the convictions.

"I made clear that I was bound to respect the recent confirmation of the original verdict after a full hearing of the Court of Appeal."

Dame Jill Knight (Birmingham, Edgbaston, C) said that there was very little point in his meeting the Irish Ambassador on any other occasion on this matter. There was not the slightest question - was the Birmingham bombers had had a fair trial in the beginning and had had their case resumed again and again.

Those who suggested in their written works that other people were responsible might have the guts to come forward and say who they (the bombers) were.

Mr Hurd: I agree with her

second theme. If MPs or any other citizens have specific information on this or other cases, it is their duty to come forward and give it in a proper way to the proper people.

Mr Christopher Mallin (Sunderland South, Lab) asked Mr Hurd to confirm that he had the power, if he chose, to set up an independent review tribunal, which could consider evidence inadmissible before a court of law. That had been done in other serious alleged miscarriages of justice.

Mr Hurd said that he had such power. "But in this case, I took the course which seemed to be much more straightforward. I referred the matter to the Court of Appeal."

Mr John Hume (Foyc, SDLP) said that the fact that the prison authorities did not regard these people as dangerous tended to confirm that they were innocent.

Mr Hurd replied that Mr Hume should know better than to give that sort of second-hand hearsay opinion held by prison officers.

Single nerve cells human brain recognise familiar words when pre-memories. This is the first time drawn from 4 experiments in which ability for the first time activity of single cells brains of living people were measured.

A Californian research team has already done it. They used a deep electrode to reach the brain. Using this technique, they were able to extract words from the brain of a patient who had already been reported in this week's Nature.

The researchers put electrodes in an area of the brain called the medial temporal lobe, which is known to be involved in learning and memory. It has already been reported that people with a medial temporal lobe resection are unable to remember recent memories.

More stations

British Rail has opened 75 new stations and reopened 25 since 1979; closed 32; and plans to open or reopen a further 60 stations over the next three years. Viscount Davidson, deputy chief whip in the Lords, disclosed during questions in the House of Lords.

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SPECTRUM

DAY 4: SCOTLAND, ULSTER AND IRELAND

Celts by the thousand

museum summer

From Dublin to Dundee: today we move to Scotland and Ireland in our week-long guide

KEY

- Free admission
- Admission charge
- Admission donation requested
- Disabled facilities
- Refreshments
- Completely new
- New elements
- Not to be missed
- Temporary exhibitions
- Parking

ULSTER AND IRELAND

BELFAST

Ulster Museum, Botanic Gdns.

0232 381251. Open daily.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Made in Belfast, until the end of October, is a celebration of the city's industrial history and invention, in a new gallery created out of storage space.

Also the Irish version of the Armada story, and Travelling at Port Philip: the Australian Aborigines at the time of European Contact.

Ulster Folk & Transport Museum, Witham Street, Belfast. 0232 428428. Closed Sun.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Rebuilding churches within its own precincts: R.C. Anglican and now Presbyterian. Award winner which got international attention last year with its Titanic exhibition, now at the Merseyside Maritime Museum.

Three current exhibitions. Fraternal Societies of Ireland, Crossed Cars, and the linen industry.

CLONMEL Museum and Gallery, Parnell Street, County Tipperary. 010-353-52-21308. Closed Sun, Mon, FH.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Took on a new lease of life after it was taken over by the local authority. Reopened in 1985 and won an award.

CORK Public Museum, Fitzgerald Park, Meridys. 010-353-21-270678. Closed Sat, PH, BH.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In the tradition of great local museums, this one should not be missed. They've managed to wrinkle out of the National Museum the uniform of local boy Michael Collins. Exhibitions: Ireland-Australia Bicentenary, until July 1; Spanish Armada, Aug 29-Sept 11; The Total Abstinence Foundation, from Sept 28, celebrating 150 years since Cork gave up drink at a priest's behest.

KILLARNEY Killarney National Park, County Kerry. 010-353-64-31440. Open daily.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

A 15-year project to create an arboretum of rare trees is open for the first time. Also, if the thatcher has finished, a cottage opens next month with a permanent exhibition of traditional building. Muckross House is in the park too (same details as above), a museum of Kerry life with permanent demonstrations of weaving, blacksmithing, harness-making, potting and bookbinding.

LETTERKENNY Globe Gallery Church Hill, County Donegal. 010-353-74-37071. Closed Mon, exd BH.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

First phase of this new museum. In the former 18th century jail was the St Patrick Museum in the old gatehouse. Now the main part has opened in the governor's house with permanent archaeological displays and temporary exhibitions. The current one is devoted to local photographer Tommy Gribbert's work at the turn of the century in County Down.

DUBLIN The Millennium celebrations are concentrating everybody's mind. For information ring 0001-731700.

Irish Life Viking Adventure, St Audeon's, High Street. 0001-757104. Open daily.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Opened in March. It out-Jorviks Jorvik. On the site of a Viking settlement, it has a recreated Viking street. Also an audio-visual show about Ireland before the Vikings.

Civic Museum, South William Street. Closed Mon.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Dublin Through the Medium of the Picture Postcard, July 14-30.

Freemason's Hall,

Molesworth Street. Freemasonry in Dublin. The first time the doors of the Irish Masons' HQ have been opened to non-brethren. Until Oct 1.

National Gallery, Merrion Sq. West. 0001-615133. Open daily.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Without a director since last week, so changes he was planning will have to wait for the new incumbent. But the exhibition programme goes on, with the current recent acquisitions, selections from the Beit Collection of 17th century masters like Murillo and Velazquez, and the McNeill-Sweeney bequest of moderns like Picasso and Modigliani until the end of July. Same dates for Dublin Depicted, part of the millennium celebration.

National Museum, Kildare Street, and 7-9 Merrion Row. 0001-765521. Closed Mon.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Museum renovations can give golden opportunities. Most of the galleries will be closed until next year, but the scheme allows the Treasury exhibition of the wonderful archaeological discoveries of recent years: the Tara Brooch, the Ardagh Chalices, the Derry Naffan Hoard. Until the end of July. The millennium contribution, for the rest of the season, is the Viking and Medieval Exhibition from the famous Wood Quay dig.

Trinity College, Grafton Street. Open Mon-Fri.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Bram Stoker, new permanent show about the Dracula man. Also, until Sept 30, Dublin Through the Medium of the Picture Postcard through manuscripts and books. In the Old Library.

EDINBURGH Edinburgh County Museum, Castle Barracks, Co. Fermanagh. 0365-25060. Closed Sun in June & Sept.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Formerly Castle Maguire, home of the Gaelic rulers of Fermanagh. Now there is an audio-visual display about the Maguires and the Elizabethan wars.

KILLARNEY Killarney National Park, County Kerry. 010-353-64-31440. Open daily.

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Dublin Through the Medium of the Picture Postcard, July 14-30.

LONDONDERRY

Orchard Gallery, Orchard Street. 0504-295575. Closed Sun, Mon.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Ten years old, the Orchard now has the Foyle Arts Project building in Derry Hill for its local, national and international new art shows.

MONAGHAN County Museum, The Court-house. 047-82928. Closed Mon, Sun (in Sept).

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Largely concerned with the local archaeology and Ireland's Viking past, this year the museum has opened a new gallery devoted to 18th and 19th century paintings.

PORTADOWN Ardara House and Farmyard, Ardara Rd, Annaghmore, Co. Armagh. 0782-851236. Closed Tues in July & Aug. Tues-Thurs June & Sept.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Developing its collections over ten years, now complete with the 17th century house open and farmyard displays outside.

SANDYCOVE James Joyce Museum, Joyce Tower, Co. Dublin. 0001-809265. Open daily.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Recently acquired a rare recording of Joyce reading part of Finnegans Wake which is going on show.

SCOTLAND

ABERDEEN

Anthropological Museum, Marischal College, The University. 0224-272000. Closed Sat.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Named Scottish Museum of 1987 for its provocative display. In the words of curator Charles Hunt, "on being human". Work about to start on a "three-dimensional encyclopedia" of north-east Scotland.

EDINBURGH National Galleries of Scotland (031-556 9821; Open daily)

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

An amalgamation of the National Gallery of Scotland, the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery.

National Gallery, The Mound. (★ ★ other details as above)

Refurbishment continues, and the main exhibition inaugurates a new gallery with 100 Master Drawings from the permanent collection. Until Oct 23, Robert Herdman, RSA, until June 28, an exhibition marking the centenary of the death of the Scottish painter.

Gallery of Modern Art, Belford Rd. (★ ★ other details as above)

Newly acquired, the Faraday Archive, until Sept 3, was given by the sister of the artist who died 25 years ago; Lucian Freud until Oct 7; Portraits of Painters by Alex Moffat until Sept 3.

Portrait Gallery, Queen Street. (★ ★ other details as above)

Masterpieces from the Edinburgh Photographic Society Collection until Sept 11; the Photography of John Muir, musician who turned to photography in the 1940s, until Nov 5.

National Museums of Scotland, (031-225 7534; Open daily ★ ★ other details as above)

Another amalgamation, this time of the old Royal Scottish Museum, the National Museum of Antiquities and the United Services Museum.

Royal Museum (R), Chamber Street. (★ ★ other details as above)

Splendid refurbished buildings have just won a Department of



Dublin's finest: the Irish Life Viking Adventure includes a reconstruction of community life 1,000 years ago, with 'inhabitants' acting as interpreters

Although Dublin was founded 1,147 years ago by Norsemen, the millennium being celebrated this year dates from the indecisive capture of the city by a Celtic chieftain. Even then the Vikings continued to rule until those lapsed Vikings, the Normans, captured it in 1170.

However spurious the reasons for celebrating, though, there is no doubt of the earnestness of the celebrations.

This month alone there are 138 official events opening, the high point in a couple of weeks' time when a gigantic celebration takes to the streets as the Street Carnival and Birthday Party.

In a more serious vein, the custodians of Dublin's heritage are not allowing the tiniest aspect of its

history or culture to pass by. In the crypt of St Audeon's Church archaeologists have identified the heart of the matter, what may have been the first Viking settlement, and here the Irish Life Viking Adventure has opened: a reconstruction of community life 1,000 years ago, including smells and "inhabitants" who act as interpreters.

But if you believe that there was plenty going on in Ireland before 988, an audio-visual show called Flame on the Hill, also in St Audeon's and the first permanent installation of its kind in Ireland, is about fire before the Vikings — the Celts, the Kings, the Druids and St Patrick.

If there has been a single recent event responsible for Dubliners

latching on to their Viking provenance, it must be the Wood Quay archaeological dig of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Some of the most spectacular finds from this history-rewriting excavation form the subject of the National Museum's contribution to the millennium.

The museum's Merrion Row gallery has an exhibition devoted to another anniversary, the 300th of Dublin's Goldsmith's Company, which nevertheless contributes to the overview of how Dublin came to be what it is. So does the quietly momentous event at Freemasons' Hall, where the Irish Masons have decided to expose some of their secrets in honour of the millennium.

Archbishop Marsh's Library, Ireland's

oldest public library, has gone back to its shelves of 1603 to find books about Dublin, and from the literal to pictorial, the Civic Museum has an exhibition entitled Dublin Through the Medium of the Picture Postcard.

The National Gallery's contribution is Dublin Depicted, while the National Library has Dublin Delected 1688-1988 (until the end of September), tracing the changing shape of the city through drawings, maps and photographs.

Trinity College, with an unquenchable taste for the Rag Week ethic, has decided that now is the time to install a permanent show about the man who would give his eye teeth to be there, Bram Stoker, Irish creator of Dracula.

Simon Tait

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Compiled by Simon Tait

TOMORROW

Day 5: the guide moves to the North

SCIENCE REPORT

The brain gives every word its own base

RICHARD LEADBETTER



Single nerve cells in the human brain recognize particular words when processing memories. This is the conclusion drawn from dramatic experiments in which, probably for the first time, the activity of single cells in the brains of living people has been measured.

A Californian research team sought permission from patients already due for brain surgery to use deep electrode probes. Using this technique they were able to examine the cells, and their findings are reported in this week's edition of *Nature*.

The researchers probed single cells in an area of the brain called the medial temporal lobe, which is known to play a part in learning and memory.

It has already been observed that people with damaged medial temporal lobes are unable to remember facts or recent memories, even though

they can still understand concepts and use language. Such people, for example, might immediately forget where they have just put their keys, though they would fully understand the word "key" and could form a mental picture of one.

Researchers Gary Heit (University of California, Los Angeles), Michael E. Smith (Stanford University) and Eric Halgren (Hospital St Anne, Paris) have now studied the behaviour of nerve cells deep within the medial temporal lobe, in structures called the hippocampus and amygdala. They recorded the electrical output of single nerve cells while patients (under local anaesthetic) looked at individual words flashing past on a video monitor.

The surprise is that particular nerve cells seem to respond preferentially to particular words. More controversially,

the researchers also report that electrical output from these cells appears to be the same whether a word is appearing for the first time or is repeated.

The explanation seems to lie in the character of the information stored in the hippocampus. Psychologists have long held that, when learning a new word or concept, people need to remember both its meaning and a great

deal of associated information. To call the word or concept to mind, contextual information is typically required about the time, place and circumstances in which the new idea was encountered. The semantic meaning of familiar words can be called up without information about association or context. As one psychologist puts it: "I bet you couldn't tell me when you first learned the word 'hedgehog'."

The researchers now claim that their recordings from the human hippocampus show that this structure does not recognize the repetition of a word, so that associated contextual information is stored elsewhere in the brain.

But because they cannot claim to have sampled all kinds of cells within the hippocampus, a judgement about the whole structure based on the observed function of a tiny fraction of it must be tentative.

Even though the number of nerve cells recorded was very small (just 39 cells out of millions), a surprisingly high proportion of them — about 70 per cent — showed a preference for a particular word.

Because the repeated vocabulary of words shown to the patients was just 10 in number, the chance that cells probed at random would have matched these words but an

other must be insignificant, so that it is extremely unlikely that every remembered word is housed in its own cell.

A better explanation is that each word or idea sets off a particular sequence of events in the brain, specific to that word. The researchers happened to have probed a few of the hundreds or thousands of cells in the network representing a word. The observation that some cells responded to more than one word is thus evidence that these networks overlap.

This fits well with the current views of the importance of networks of nerve cells in the brain, by means of which nerve cells in many different parts of the brain may be involved in the processing of a single sensory stimulus.

Henry Gee

© Nature/The Times News Service 1988

We live on the village small village near Castles Saturday: we were the garden enjoying peace and quiet of day.



1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN Telephone: 01-481 4100

THE LAST EMPERORS

The Soviet Union, inheritor of the Tsars, is the last of the European territorial empires. Ruling as Moscow does over many different nationalities and ethnic groups, it must be acutely aware of this lonely eminence, and of the fate of its previous imperial competitors. In recent days, the fundamental vulnerability of the Soviet system to national disintegration has been highlighted by the continuing violence in the Caucasus, and by calls from the official party representatives from the Baltic republics for a drastic federalization of the Soviet state, giving everything short of independence back to the republics.

Nationalist protest has been successfully suppressed in the past by police measures, and by the memory of Stalin's terror, which fell particularly heavily on some of the nationalities. It is also true that under Brezhnev, the increasing feebleness of the hands holding the reins of power in Moscow allowed local leaders to run things very much their own way. This meant a great deal of corruption and economic stagnation, but also that these leaders were able to advance the position of members of their own nationalities in education, economic control and government.

Mr Gorbachev is therefore faced with a common dilemma of reformers. He is committed to a measure of democratization and decentralization. But in order to push his reform programme through against the opposition of these local elites, he is having to try to make Soviet central control more effective and omnipresent. This contradiction was bound to cause a measure of conflict, and in some cases it is very clear that disgraced local elites have stirred up trouble in revenge for their fall. The riots in Alma Ata after the dismissal of Kazakh General Secretary Dinmukhammed Kunayev and his replacement with a Russian are a case in point, and an element of this factor may also be present in the Caucasus.

Behind these political manoeuvrings, of course, lie the nationalist aspirations of so many peoples which have been suppressed for so many years by Soviet power. The case of the Caucasus provides a foretaste of the potential ethnic bloodshed running beneath the surface of Soviet power. One of the curious things that

has become apparent as "openness" has progressed in most of the communist countries is how little their totalitarian systems have actually changed the minds of their subjects. None the less, in some ways, the trouble in the Transcaucasus may well be portrayed as a justification for the existence of an impartial Soviet power, standing above the fray and sending in its army — as was announced yesterday — to part the warring sides and restore order and peace.

Far more difficult for the Soviet Union are the majority of cases of ethnic hostility where the parties are not two "minority nationalities", but one of those minorities and the Russian majority. This is the case in most of the republics, and especially where Russian settlers are present in large numbers, as in Kazakhstan and the Baltic.

For despite the genuine but limited advances of a form of "Soviet patriotism" — especially in Central Asia, where the Soviet Union has brought considerable social and economic progress — there is no doubt at all that the Russians are the dominant "people of state". Gorbachev has found that he needs this dominance. In his time, their overwhelming share of Politburo seats has actually increased — the vast "Muslim" population has not had a single one since Gaidar Aliev resigned — and for decades they have virtually monopolized the senior ranks of the armed forces. Thus in challenging Russian dominance, the minority nationalities also implicitly challenge the existence of the state. On June 11 and 12, for the first time representatives of nationalist groupings from six of the republics, from the Caucasus, the Baltic and the Ukraine, met in the Ukrainian city of Lvov to voice their grievances — a moment of great historic importance.

Probably even more worrying to Moscow will have been the declaration of the Communist Party representatives from the Baltic republics. For while the rioters in the Caucasus have taken to the streets, the Baltic communists have been working from within the system. And if Moscow cannot rely on local communist parties to rule the republics on its behalf, who can it rely on?

IRAN MUST PAY THE PIPER

The Government is coming under pressure to repair Britain's relationship with Iran. But that pressure is coming mainly from Tehran. The question which thus presents itself is — why?

Several weeks ago the Iranians suddenly took up a year-old British proposal to settle the argument over damage to their respective embassies. Now a parliamentary delegation has just returned from the Iranian capital, where they were able to raise the question of British hostages in Lebanon. From low-level technical talks to friendly informal contacts between politicians, the two countries are edging closer, less than 12 months after the last crisis in their relationship.

So far so good. It is in most people's interests that they do so. A decade ago, Iran dominated the Gulf — an essential player in Western political strategy in the region. While the character of its government has profoundly (and violently) changed, the motives which inspired that Anglo-American strategy of the 1970s remain. It is in British interests that Iran is stable and strong — and friendly.

That the course of recent history has driven a wedge between the two nations is the fault of Tehran. The repressive regime of the mullahs has not only been offensive to the West — but has seemed to go out of its way to make life difficult. But Iran has loomed so large in Whitehall's eyes that Britain has held back from breaking off relations. However close to the brink it has been forced, it has somehow managed to avoid that final step. (Contrast Syria and Libya, with whom relations have actually been severed during that time).

But it is Iran which now seems to be taking the diplomatic initiative. Tehran is tired of its diplomatic isolation. In the early years of the 1979 revolution, the Khomeini regime might be said to have courted isolation — or at least to have been indifferent to it. But political realities and the emergence of a more moderate leadership has slowly introduced more prag-

matism to its policy-making. The "revolution" is set to continue — too many of its leadership have a vested interest in its success to allow it to die. But, despite continuing crises on the way, Iranians are learning to live in the real world again.

Reverses in the Gulf War, on land now as well as at sea, have encouraged Tehran's new approaches to the West. Sir Geoffrey Howe's recent public condemnation of chemical weapons, however commonplace, was interpreted by Tehran as a slap in the face for Iraq — which has almost certainly used such weapons in the Gulf War. The speech was seen by the rulers of Iran as a far from unfriendly gesture by the British.

But the price paid for enhanced relations must be acceptable to Britain. It is, after all, Iran which has made the overtures. Iran must thus pay the piper — while Britain should feel free to call the tune.

This brings one to the issue of the hostages. Apart from British prisoners in Tehran, there are three remaining British and Irish hostages in Lebanon, supposedly held by the pro-Iranian terrorist group Hezbollah. It is clear that Tehran has some influence over their destiny — though exactly how much is unclear. If, by opening a channel of communication through Iran, Britain can secure their safe release, that avenue must be explored. It would be doing an injustice to their families if the Government turned its back on such a chance.

But the policy of "no deals" with either terrorists or their backers must remain. If Iran wants to mend its fences with the West, it is Iran which must strive to secure the release of those held in Lebanon. It is not Britain which has to make concessions, either financial or political, to win the co-operation of the mullahs. Only when the hostages have been freed can Britain advance from the present uneasy détente with Khomeini's Iran towards a genuine rapprochement.

Food for thought

From Mr G. H. G. Norman

Sir, It was with great pleasure and amusement that I read the article by your Correspondent, Mr Jonathan Meades (June 18), about a restaurant in Wimbledon, and I no less enjoyed the cartoon which accompanied it. I was surprised, however, that among the particularities on which he remarked there was one omission: the name.

French words beginning with the letter "h" are always troublesome. In some words, for instance *habile*, the "h" can be ignored; the word can be treated as beginning with a vowel, and one says *l'habile*, and also *les-z-habits*, making both an elision and a liaison.

Other words, notably *haricot*, have what French grammarians call an aspirated "h". This does not mean that the "h" is pro-

nounced as we pronounce it in English, but that it has to be treated as a "silent consonant", so that neither elision nor liaison is possible. You say *le haricot* and *les haricots*, with a hiatus in both forms.

Another word like *haricot* happens to be *herisson*, and I no Frenchman that I have ever met in my connection with that country, which has lasted more than 80 years, has ever said anything but *le herisson*. The elision in the restaurant's title is either a solecism, or leads one to ask oneself how close is its connection with any Frenchman.

I am, Sir, with all the respect due to you from one of your former Correspondents in Paris, Yours faithfully, G. H. G. NORMAN, 12 Addison Crescent, W14. June 20.

Sports supporters

From Mrs Philida N. Norman

Sir, Like most Englishmen and women, we have watched with increasing dismay and disgust the behaviour of the football "fans" and supporters during the past days.

We live on the village green in a small village near Castle Howard. Last Saturday we were sitting in the garden enjoying the perfect peace and quiet of a summer's day.

I went out to visit a neighbour and to my amazement discovered that there were between 150 and 200 cyclists and their helpers and supporters congregated, chatting and having their lunch on the

green, together with cars and buses the village was full, and the houses and cottages all surround the green.

There were no radios in evidence, only the murmur of conversation and some laughter. When they left, two to three hours later, all the litter had been collected and left in plastic bags.

All credit to the cyclists. The contrast leads one to hope that their excellent behaviour could act as an example for the violence of the football "fans".

Yours truly, PHILIDA N. NORMAN, The Yews, Conesbury, York. June 20.

Future of Horniman

From Miss Pamela Bowden and Dr Denis McCaldin

Sir, Members of the Incorporated Society of Musicians wish to focus attention on the uncertain future of the Horniman Museum. If the Inner London Education Authority is abolished, this museum, originally given by the Horniman family to the people of London, will be administered locally by the London Borough of Lewisham.

The Horniman has provided an educational service, free lectures, concerts and exhibitions of western and non-western music for children and adults, living within the boundaries of the area and beyond.

As musicians, we would urge the Government to acknowledge its national and international significance and to consider taking practical steps to secure its future as the home for a unique collection of early and period instruments, notably the fine Dolmetsch collection.

It is perhaps too much to expect that one London borough should continue to maintain the Horniman at this high level. We suggest that the Horniman should now be made a national institution, nationally financed and with nationally appointed trustees, similar to other important arts collections and archives.

Yours faithfully, PAMELA BOWDEN (President), DENIS MCCALDIN (Warden), Music in Education (Section), The Incorporated Society of Musicians, 10 Stratford Place, W1. June 20.

Getting rid of chemical waste

From Mr P. A. M. Heath

Sir, Your leader, "Waste of the world" (June 17), identifies a problem but fails to recognise the real solution. The extensive and unrealistic laws controlling disposal of chemical wastes in countries like West Germany and the USA have been introduced without ensuring that alternative permitted facilities exist. It is for this reason that waste producers are being forced to export their waste.

In the UK we already have an adequate regulatory framework, with its procedure for licensing disposal facilities. We also have the necessary technology and most of the equipment to treat chemical waste and render it environmentally harmless.

What we do not have is uniform standards of either licensing conditions or enforcement. The Government has not committed sufficient resources to enable the regulatory framework to take effect.

The UK does not need more legislation, it needs more enforcement.

Yours faithfully, P. A. M. HEATH, Managing Director, Clearway Ltd, The Drive, Warley, Brentwood, Essex. June 21.

Paintings on show

From Mr Robert Kennedy

Sir, I cannot accept Mr Gray Lucas's suggestion (June 20) that a higher admission charge would have resulted in comfortable viewing of the Thyssen-Bornemisza paintings at the recent Royal Academy exhibition (in any case free of charge for all who pay a modest annual subscription).

What drew the crowds was the high quality of the paintings, their non-specialist nature, media exposure and temporary availability.

I don't believe these factors are sufficiently price-sensitive to give the result he desires, and a high admission charge for this event would surely attract criticism to the sponsors.

Yours faithfully, ROBERT KENNEDY, 16 Anley Road, W14. June 20.

From the Editor of Apollo

Sir, In the event of the Thyssen collection not being secured for the Docklands, Birmingham, Milton Keynes or Battersea, would it be reasonable to assume that Mrs Thatcher will make part or better still the whole of the £100 million available to our existing museums?

These are full of even greater masterpieces than Baron Thyssen's, yet, as the Museums and Galleries Commission has recently pointed out (HMSO publication, April 6), they are so seriously underfunded that we, the public, are not able to get the best value for money out of our heritage. Indeed, a report by the National Audit Office on these museums published on March 23 was so despondent about the problems confronting them that it recommended selling works of art to help ease the load.

Yours sincerely, A. G. SOMERS COCKS, Editor, Apollo, 22 Davies Street, W1. June 17.

Falkland memories

From Dr D. F. Burgess

Sir, I have recently taken over the headship of Stanley Senior School and today I attended my first Liberation Day memorial service in the cathedral and, later, the laying of wreaths at the town monument.

Both occasions were overwhelmingly supported by the young and the old alike. There can be little doubt of the continuing community gratitude felt for those who gave their lives here in 1982.

Yours faithfully, D. F. BURGESS, Education Department, Stanley, Falkland Islands. June 14.

Flowers on the greens

From Mrs P. L. Mackay

Sir, The rare lizard orchids on a Kent golf course (report, June 17) are only a part of the beautiful and unusual flowers preserved in out-of-the-way corners of golf courses.

To ensure the interest of the members and the preservation of such species as chalkland orchids and cowslips why not establish a conservation award for golf clubs?

Yours faithfully, FRISCELLA MACKAY, Nanton Cottage, Nanton, Salisbury, Wiltshire. June 17.

Not a true bill

From Mr Tom Girtin

Sir, On reporting, last week, to the Telecom engineers that a number 1 was calling was unobtainable, I was told that the line had "been taken out of service", asked if I would like to know the reason, and connected to the area manager's office.

A girl in his accounts department then explained that the subscriber's bill had not been paid.

The letter by Mr Laurence Shurman and Mr Michael Sherrard, QC, on June 22 should have started: "Professor Rhodes contends in his letter (June 7) that testing for HIV infection is being denied for social not medical reasons."

A lead to Hong Kong on refugees

From the Director General of Save the Children

Sir, The new policy towards Vietnam refugees arriving in Hong Kong announced by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (report, June 16) is in several respects incomplete.

First, no arrangements for the repatriation of refugees to Vietnam have been completed. While not underestimating the difficulties of arriving at such arrangements, it does seem that the British Government is creating its own obstacles.

For instance, it is not at all obvious (as correctly stated in your leading article of June 16) why Vietnam's military presence in Cambodia forbids any aid or development assistance to Vietnam to improve conditions from which the refugees are fleeing. Several British non-government organisations, including the Save the Children Fund, would be

willing to work in Vietnam, building on links already established.

Second, it is important to gain assurances from both the Hong Kong and British Governments that these refugees awaiting repatriation are cared for and provided with services similar to those available in the best of the camps currently in Hong Kong.

Finally, there remain well over 16,000 refugees in Hong Kong who arrived before the new policy applied and who await resettlement. Could not Britain give a lead to other countries by agreeing to accept a number for resettlement now?

Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS HINTON, Director General, The Save the Children Fund, Mary Datchelor House, 17 Grove Lane, Camberwell, SE5. June 16.

Anglo-Irish attitudes

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist

Sir, In your leading article on Ireland (June 18) you say that British anti-terrorist policy must "make the maximum use of the co-operation and co-ordination available from the Republic". This is true and remains valid despite what you call the recent "extrajudicial fiasco".

Unfortunately, however, the people of this country, as briefed by their ministers, entertain a grossly optimistic estimate of the extent to which the Republic can be induced to co-operate on security matters. However much good will may be credited to Irish ministers, they can operate only marginally in advance of the minds of their constituents, and these minds are unavoidably conditioned by three important factors.

First, by the power of the IRA in the South and by its determination to protect its own. This power can be illustrated by the enforced suspension of jury trials to an equal extent in both areas.

Second, for very natural historical reasons the Irish are anti-

British — not personally, but politically — on almost any issue affecting the two countries.

Third, the Irish have a remarkably strong disbelief in the fairness of that British justice to which their allegedly-criminal fellow-nationals will be exposed if extradited. (And one must admit that certain recent examples of British justice, culminating in the Gibraltar shootings, have presented them with what they consider convincing evidence in support of this disbelief).

To make allowance for such factors is not to be anti-British or pro-Irish. It is to be realistic. If the Prime Minister, in her praiseworthy pursuit of Anglo-Irish co-operation, had made allowance for them, she could scarcely have permitted her reaction to the McVeigh case (report, June 14) to be reported as "utterly dismayed".

To avoid the steady recurrence of dismay, we had better lower our expectations of the dividends receivable from Anglo-Irish security co-operation. Yours faithfully, ANDREW GILCHRIST, Arthur's Crag, Hazelbank, By Larack. June 19.

Classroom poll

From the Deputy General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers

Sir, We completely reject the claim by Ronald Davies, Director of the National Children's Bureau (June 21), that the recent NOP opinion poll on classroom indiscipline carried out for the National Union of Teachers "could be seriously misleading".

First, our poll is methodologically sound. The survey sample was 488 teachers, which as a percentage of the teaching force is a higher percentage than that usually used for many national opinion polls.

Second, our poll represents the views of classroom teachers. As such, it cannot be perceived as the only view of indiscipline in schools. It is, however, a valuable contribution to a much needed debate and should be heeded by parents and politicians alike. We note the views of the Inspectors quoted by the NCB. They too have opinions that should be noted by

Lord Elton and the Government enquiry.

Perhaps teachers, working in schools daily, view things rather differently from the Inspectors. Their answers to the NOP's questions were quite clear: almost half of them say that indiscipline is a regular or frequent problem in their school; 80 per cent of teachers experienced incidents of verbal abuse of teachers in their school; a quarter of all teachers have been verbally abused in the last year.

Our poll does not say that schools in England and Wales are in chaos, as your heading to Mr Davies's letter suggests. We simply say that teachers are having to cope with increasing disruption and abuse, that this is a growing problem and that something must be done to improve the situation. The NCB would be churlish to reject this view. Yours sincerely, DOUG McAVOY, Deputy General Secretary, National Union of Teachers, Hamilton House, Mableton Place, WC1.

Double standards?

From Mr John Derrick

Sir, An increasingly common sight in central London is that of the clamped van. The fact that you are working at a customer's premises does not entitle you to park on yellow lines outside them.

But two private-sector companies appear to have immunity. One is British Gas; the other is British Gas. I see vehicles belonging to both parked all over the place, yet I have never seen one clamped.

Clearly, there are occasions when these companies have to leave vehicles on yellow lines — if they are digging up the road, for example — but there is no need to do so when they are doing work inside a customer's premises. There is no more reason for the company working on the phone or gas system to park outside than a company servicing the customer.

For that matter, why should police cars park illegally when their occupants are on routine enquiries? But when was the last time you saw a policeman looking for a meter?

Personally, I support a more liberal approach to parking regulations. But if we are going to have a strict clamping regime, it ought to be a fair one.

Yours faithfully, JOHN DERRICK, Managing Director, What to Buy plc, 11 Kings Road, SW3. June 21.

and informed me of the exact sum alleged to be outstanding.

That such confidential material should be gratuitously given by British Telecom, as a matter of course, to anyone who asks must surely be a matter of general concern.

That the information was also untrue — a receipt for the payment having been issued last month — only adds to the sense of outrage felt by

Your obedient servant, TOM GIRTIN, Bunter Field House, Church Street, Old Isworth, Middlesex. June 20.

Young students under pressure

From Dr Irene Weinreb

Sir, Dr Butler and Ms Davies are right in stating (Spectrum, June 17) that the majority of student health problems are anxiety-related. Perhaps one way of approaching these would be to examine the pressures on this population.

Moving away from home to a large institution, establishing their identity and forming friendships are challenging undertakings, particularly when there is inadequate student accommodation and poor financial support. A fragmented campus, such as at London University, can make socialising difficult and increase feelings of homesickness and loneliness.

All this coincides with a time when this age group are realising their sexuality and not only attempting to make sense of sexual relationships and contraception, but are also confronted by the issues of sexually-transmitted diseases and Aids.

Women students entering this competitive academic and social environment have to deal with the chauvinism that exists both amongst fellow students and staff. Some find themselves psychologically unable to do so. Foreign students arrive ill-prepared in understanding our language, culture and methods of learning.

All students have to make the transition from studying at a school/college to the less structured courses at university. At the end of the day there is a necessity to obtain a good degree in the face of an increasingly competitive job market and high graduate unemployment. The realisation that ideals have to be sacrificed and that eventually graduates may not work in their chosen field is threatening to their self-image.

Drug abuse and excessive drinking and smoking are symptoms as well as causes of stress. The youth of society have always explored life, but the problems facing today's students are contemporary. The health professionals involved should speak out not just for more comprehensive and relevant health care, but also for help in tackling the underlying factors causing student ill-health.

Yours sincerely, IRENE WEINREB, Imperial College of Science and Technology Health Service, 14 Princes Gardens, SW7. June 21.

Polytechnic results

From Professor John Radford

Sir, John Clare (Spectrum, June 15) says that polytechnics tend to be considered inferior to universities because they demand on average only six, rather than 10, A-level points for entrance. But A-levels are not necessarily the best indicator of success. When I was head of a polytechnic (originally college of technology) department some 20 years ago, we ignored A-level grades altogether in selection. Instead we used a standard intelligence test, two interviews, and a rating of other information such as headmasters' reports, out-of-school activities, and so on.

Until the advent of the Council for National Academic Awards our students took examinations of the University of London which were the same for internal and external candidates. Our students' results were statistically indistinguishable from those of the internal colleges. Among many other achievements two of these students have become heads of university departments.

Elsewhere in the same issue you report Mr Robert Jackson as calling for more open access to higher education. To some of us that is hardly a novelty. Yours faithfully, JOHN RADFORD, 38 Cephas Avenue E1. June 15.

would alter the form of its register so as to allow us properly to identify the credentials of doctors to whom we entrust ourselves.

Yours faithfully, PETER KNOWLES, Milton Hall, South Milton, Kingsbridge, Devon. June 16.

Drink and violence

From Mr E. M. Hall

Sir, It is as now being said (report, June 20), the public consumption of alcohol is increasing, it is unlikely to inhibit the drinking habits of the high-income groups, including the "money" yobboes. It will, however, inhibit the moderate social drinking of those, like myself, who on modest incomes, are most pensioners.

The logical end of ships liquor-out-of-reach restrictions, prohibition, and most other measures what that did to the U.K. is obvious. Yours faithfully, E. M. HALL, 6 Fair Mile, Henley-on-Thames. June 20.

Safety in n

From Dr Mark P.

Sir, Whatever co' to senior a group of traffic agreed in your 'age history of are June 15, 20, 22) (transmission published) will never be a 's and social history'. Yours sincerely, Dr M. P. MARK POWELL, 46 Bedford Sq. June 22.

THE ARTS

Vinegar into champagne

Robert Palmer, the rock singer whose 20-year career has included associations with Elkie Brooks, Gary Numan and Duran Duran, talks to David Sinclair about his latest musical cocktail

He has been thought of as, variously, an urbane, contemporary rock stylist, a blue-eyed soul singer, a brutish heavy rocker, a torch song traditionalist, a connoisseur of the 12-inch dance-club mix, a rampant chauvinist, and a champion of African and other ethnic music. Little wonder, then, that the jury has taken its time to reach a verdict on Robert Palmer and that his career has been prone to misunderstandings.

"That doesn't particularly bother me, because it looks as if at long last people are prepared to put up with the lack of continuity and accept it as my style," says Palmer, who is sitting in the basement bar of the St James's Club, Piccadilly, smoking a Dunhill and sipping a lunchtime Bloody Mary. He is dressed in a black short-sleeved shirt, grey slacks and open sandals. Palmer has recently upped sticks from his home in the Bahamas and moved with his family to Lugano, in Switzerland, home of the fabled Thyssen art collection. He is in London to promote a new album, *Heavy Nova*, his first since 1985's *Riptide*, and further testament to the kind of free-ranging musical spirit which sees nothing odd in combining the styles of heavy metal and bossa nova. Apparently he road-tested the idea on his last American tour in 1986.

"I was drawing bigger crowds than I ever had before, 10-15,000, and the bulk of the audience was coming to hear 'Addicted To Love' and 'I Didn't Mean To Turn You On' which were the hits at the time. But I was doing speed metal songs by Hüsker Dü and then we'd go into an acoustic tune that would be really tender and sen-

sual, which I'd sing in Portuguese." The absence of any vocal complaints from the crowds suggested to Palmer that his audience was happy to accept such wild extremes. Although born in Batley, Yorkshire in January 1949, Palmer's childhood was spent in Malta where his father, who was a surveillance operative attached to the navy, was posted.

"All the expatriate families in Malta emulated the *South Pacific* lifestyle. They all had reel-to-reel tape recorders and they recorded off the American Forces Network and they all partied each night at each other's houses. I'd be up in bed and I'd hear them blasting out Lena Horne, Peggy Lee, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Billie Holiday. To me that music was hip. When I got back to England and heard the music scene I was disgusted until I heard Otis Redding and soul music. That was my rebel music. Otherwise, the likes of Cliff Richard and the Shadows sounded pretty cornball compared to Billie Holiday."

While still in his teens Palmer was recruited as singer of the Alan Bown Set, which he left after a brief tenure to take up a jazz-band, Dada. After some changes this group became Vinegar Joe, a good-time R'n'B outfit which featured Palmer as joint lead vocalist with Elkie Brooks.

Vinegar Joe hit the skids in 1973 and Palmer disappeared to the States where he cut a series of sophisticated albums — *Sneakin' Sally Through The Alley*, *Pressure Drop*, and *Some People Can Do What They Like* — which dabbled in styles ranging from soul to southern funk and reggae, but which failed to find commercial favour. A succession of brilliant



Robert Palmer: "I don't want to be flamboyant so I buy invisible sails"

singles — "Johnny And Mary" (1980), "Looking For Clues" (1980) and "Some Guys Have All The Luck" (1982) — provided him with a handful of disappointingly minor hits.

Ironically it was the most casually conceived of extracurricular projects that was partly responsible for catapulting him into the big league. Palmer wrote a set of lyrics for some music which Duran Duran's John Taylor (bass) and Andy Taylor (guitar) had sent

him on a tape in the post. From this small beginning, the idea developed of recording an album, and, with Chic's powerhouse drummer Tony Thompson on board, the Power Station was born.

"It was nuts. We just did it at the weekend. It was like a crazy party for 48 hours. I don't know how stuff got done. Maybe that's part of the appeal of the record, that it's so careless."

The resulting album, *The Power*

Station, released in 1985, was a runaway success, especially in America and paved the way for Palmer's breakthrough with his own album *Riptide* and the single "Addicted To Love", a US No.1.

The video for that single, which featured Palmer surrounded by an eye-catching "band" comprised of an unlikely collection of leggy, porcelain-faced models, prompted lively debate in feminist quarters. Palmer remains unapologetic and indeed has since repeated the idea on two subsequent videos. But isn't there a danger that this ultra-smooth rakish image might detract from the serious intent of his music?

"There is a weight of attitude behind your question that I don't understand. I don't give a damn about image. It's like putting the cart before the horse. I don't think about what I wear for making a video; it really doesn't concern me."

Nevertheless, Palmer is, like Bryan Ferry, a conspicuously well-turned out member of rock's otherwise rumpled aristocracy. Has he always been very style conscious?

"It's the other way round. I don't like to attract attention on the street. I don't want to be flamboyant or anything so I buy invisible sails. I find that a lot of singers are introverts. I love craftsmanship, but I don't follow fashion. I just go into my favourite stores and see what fits and what suits me. Somebody interviewed my parents recently and apparently my mother said that I was most meticulous about my school uniform. I guess I'm just a fuss-pot."

In the wake of his success as a power chord crooner, his passionate interest in what has come to be known as world music has tended to be overlooked.

"I got a Christmas card from Earl King (the old blues singer and composer of "Trick Bag" which Palmer included on *Riptide*). I thought 'I bet I've paid for his curtains and cleaning his carpet for a year.' That's nice, though, to be in a position where you're re-illuminating traditions, just as a side-effect of your enthusiasms."

Heavy Nova by Robert Palmer is released on Monday June 27.

Behind the mask of a virgin queen

DONALD COOPER

THEATRE

Façades
Lyric Studio,
Hammersmith

William Humble ends this play about the Sitwells in 1926 with D.H. Lawrence's visit to the family's castle in Tuscany. Here the prophet of the solar plexus confronts poetry's virgin queen with her own lines on the Sleeping Beauty. For a moment, the play enters into the fairy-tale, before the 39-year-old Edith shakes off her uncouth, tubercular Prince Charming and drags the conversation back to safe literary territory, thus slamming the door on physical life for ever.

As its title implies, *Façades* puts forward the unsurprising idea that the public manifestations of Edith Sitwell, from the avant-garde virtuoso of the 1920s to the bejewelled high priestess of later years, were masks to conceal the wounds she had received as a bullied daughter and sexual outsider.

That sounds like a sad life: and there are passages, such as Edith's early confinement into a barbarous nose-straightening machine, that arouse one's sympathetic ire. But what has clearly led Mr Humble to the subject is its spectacular comic potential: both in the eccentricity of Edith's parental tormentors, and her growing power to turn the tables on them. With all respect to Lawrence and the Life Force, this is the heartening story of someone who found out what she was and made something of it.

Pathos, for a start, does not flourish in the company of Sir George Sitwell, marvelously played by Graham Crowden as a genial ogre who periodically pops out of his study to keep the womenfolk in order: congratulating Lady Ida on the birth of Osbert: "I knew we'd come up trumps if we stuck at it"; and forbidding his daughter to read Pope: "Dwarf, wasn't he? We've always been a remarkably tall family." Sheila Reid's Lady Ida meanwhile keeps up her own graciously regal façade, while launching poisonous pleasantries against her hated spouse and running up huge debts for which



Sad Edith: Frances de la Tour she lets her children take the blame.

The main comic spectacle is that of Frances de la Tour suffering the tyranny of these two lunatics, and then disposing of them with crushing irony before making off for freedom and baked beans in Bayswater.

Lawrence thought the Sitwells behaved as though "marooned on a desert island". Mr Humble brilliantly takes this as a pretext for fracturing chronological order and location with no change of set. Edith's humiliations are followed by the sight of her avenging herself on a dance partner. Family rows, and wartime correspondence with Osbert are intercut with her poems. Her love for the homosexual painter Pavlik Tchelitchev occupies the opening scene. But Bruno Santini's set, a terraced garden of the castle, its steps gleaming with mica and concealed lights picking out details of statuary and sap-heavy vines, carries such echoes of Tchelitchev's teasingly magical picture "Cache-cache" that he seems to be on stage throughout. Following *Shirley Valentine*, Simon Callow has directed another winner.

Irving Wardle

Balancing on a banana skin

Simplicity
Donmar Warehouse

This latest go at fitting a Marivaux comedy for the English market has a robust charm, blessedly free of the affectations and quaint delicacy that never did him any good over here.

The translation's confident tone is undoubtedly due to the fact that it is the work of an exact contemporary, the excellent Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, letter-writer and a pioneer campaigner for inoculation against smallpox.

Actually, her translation is the earliest go of all, but she seems to have made no attempt to stage it and the manuscript lay unnoticed among her papers for a couple of centuries.

Marivaux's plot takes the convention of a master changing places with his valet, and doubles it by adding a mistress changing places with her maid. The man's motive is to see what the lady he is expected to marry is really like and, of course, he falls instantly in love with this unusually gracious,

well-spoken maid. And vice-versa. The plot's machinery requires us to accept that the gulf between 18th-century classes was uncrossable; even to consider it as ludicrous, so that to watch characters struggling to understand how they can be feeling the unfeeling has the comedy of watching someone balancing on a banana skin.

Against a lakeside terrace set by Meg Surrey, the touring Co Producers company (directed by Sonia Fraser) make the predictable aspects into a delightful spectacle — though I would have preferred to see Elizabeth Rider emphasize the confusion of Belinda's heart rather than the affront to her class.

Christopher Villiers' young lover is dashing and the comely plums in his throat suit the play-actor element in his character. As the maid raised above her station, Joanna Hole gives a performance of winning country-girlishness and Norman Bowler plays the benign father with the same contented smile on his face that one sees on politicians newly enabled.

Jeremy Kingston

High but not dry

TELEVISION

decline. Tuohy gamely dredged up the obvious historical parallel from the 1920s, but might have made the point that Prohibition not only fostered alcoholism and gangsterism: it crucially brought the law into a disrepute from which it has never recovered.

Over here, things have come to a pretty pass when the antics of hippies at Stonehenge can be blamed on alcohol, of all substances. *Breaking The Habit*, a new health-oriented series (also on Thames) opened with the asser-

tion that nine out of 10 adults in the country are drug takers. The drug in question is of course a legal one, and the director did not stint herself on shots of real people consuming real drink. What can happen when consumption gets out of hand was amply illustrated by the sight of a chirochic liver, which resembles a giant rissole from some nightmare school dinner.

Launched in a City wine bar and transmitted after closing time, the series is scrupulously non-lecturing and presents an adequate overview of current knowledge. It would, however, do well to avoid complex ideas, such as the evidence for a genetic factor in alcoholism. The bald fact that the adopted children of alcoholics may themselves develop "a problem" in later life takes no account of the emotional legacy of adoption.

Martin Cropper

A rare phantom from the operan

OPERA

Den bergtagna
Royal, York

This is a real collector's piece. Ivar Hallström (1826-1901) is one of the more obscure figures in the misty landscape of Swedish late Romanticism, a composer principally of operas and operettas, among which *Den bergtagna*, or *The Bride of the Mountain King*, apparently enjoyed most success.

After its first performance at the Royal Opera in Stockholm, in 1874, it was produced in Munich and Hamburg. However, there were no records of any staging since 1910 before the work was revived in 1986 by Norrlands Operan, a young company operating in sub-arctic Sweden; it is their production that has now been brought over by the York Festival as a different sort of mystery play.

The story is of that classic Scandinavian type in which a mortal is destined by the trolls and discovers on release that many years have passed. In this case a young woman, Ingeborg, is entranced by the Mountain King and taken into his lair inside the hills, much to the displeasure of his mother the Mountain Queen. Ingeborg is given a magic potion to make her forget her life on earth, but after a year the Mountain Queen persuades her to take a draft of spring water that will reawaken her memory, and she demands to be released. The Mountain King allows her to go, saying that no harm will come to her unless she discloses his name. When she discovers, however, that 50 years have passed back

home, she curses him and so dies. Many of these narrative motifs are distinctly Wagnerian: the lure of the supernatural stranger, the conflict of innocent and malevolent women, the inhibition-releasing potion, the need to withhold a name. Yet Hallström's music is hardly Wagnerian at all, and where it is so, this seems to be simply because it shares a similar language, a background in French grand opera and a liking for strophic ballads. Indeed, these last are so prevalent that the piece seems only just on the point of making the transition from story-telling to theatre: the characters are like bards, wandering the boards relating their tales.

It is inevitably the evil pair, the Mountain Queen and her sidekick Kark, who depart from this mode to claim a life of their own, and in these roles Berit Lindholm and Bengt Krantz brought to the production a degree of theatrical intensity. Of course there was something melancholy in the spectacle of the Brünnhilde of Bayreuth become the Mountain Queen of Umeå, but Lindholm acted with commanding dignity and showed her upper voice still capable of unserving trumpet tones. Hillewi Martinpelto gave a delightfully clear, controlled performance as Ingeborg, and the simple staging was by Lars-Ake Thessman.

No doubt none of this would have come to York had it not been for the enthusiasm of Alan Hacker, here oddly making his home debut as an opera conductor and showing in this role, as in his clarinet playing, a likeable immediacy, plainness and robustness. There are further performances tonight and tomorrow.

Paul Griffiths

Love conquers all

David et Jonathas
Barbican

Marc-Antoine Charpentier's "tragédie biblique" has waited exactly 300 years for its British premiere. It came, possibly, not a month too soon, for *David et Jonathas* so passionately glorifies the love between two men that it would probably contravene Clause 29 — though it was commissioned by a Jesuit college for moral improvement during Lent.

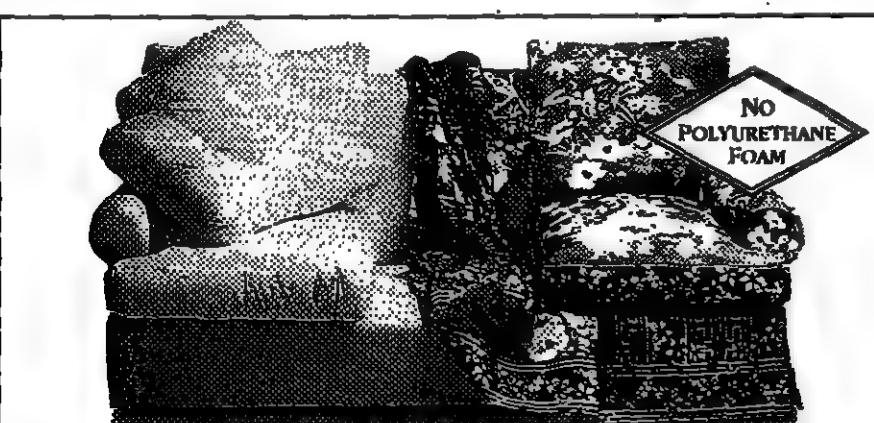
It is a magnificent work: five acts and a prologue, portraying a wide range of human conditions in music of enormous expressive possibility. The crucial word, however, is "possibility". This is an elusive style to recreate: seasons and declamatory at the same time; requiring detailed command of ornamentation and phrase-stress, yet written in surprisingly unbaroque musical structures that need expert singing.

The superb French ensemble Les Arts Florissants, directed by William Christie, proved yet again that they have no equals in this repertoire. This concert performance plunged straight to the anguished heart of every lament, skipped with virtuosic relish through the ornate instrumental preludes, and unerringly captured every change in mood and pace.

Christie uses comparatively large forces — 33 players and as many singers — yet the unity of conception and execution was exemplary.

Some of the most pleasing solo singing actually came from the chorus ranks; a magical trio of soprano shepherds intertwined with three recorders in Act 1, for example. But out in front was a sensitive counter-tenor, Gérard Lesne, as David and the radiantly clear soprano, Monique Zanetti, as Jonathas.

Richard Morrison



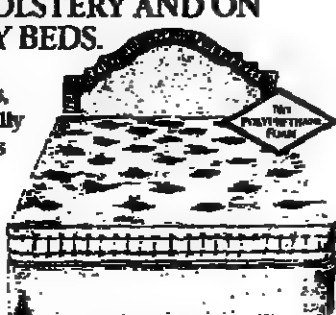
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FRIDAY PAGE

The bright brunette

Can the role of 'hostess with the mostest' be a launchpad for a brilliant career? Andrew Billen asks Angela Ekaette

Anyone interested in racial equality must have wondered whether to rejoice or despair at the news this week that the British answer to Vanna White, the dumb blonde hostess of America's most popular game show is to be black. One step forward for multi-racialism; two steps back for feminism?

Understandably, Angela Ekaette, the 25-year-old Nigerian-born Briton whom Scottish Television announced this week is to co-host its fully networked version of America's *Wheel of Fortune* from July 19, believes her appointment is grounds for optimism, and not just about her career.

"I don't know what it says about Britain but perhaps it says something about attitudes in Scotland. Yes, there is still racism in society but it's a different story in entertainment," she says. "There are bound to be people who watch who won't accept me because of my colour. But I honestly don't think that will last for long when they see the sort of person I am."

Her self-belief, that essential quality in the truly ambitious, almost makes her colour-blind: "If I thought I got the job because I was black, because I was a gimmick, I would step out now."

Announcing her hiring, Scottish Television called her a "quiz show angel" and the "hostess with the mostest", but took care to stress that she speaks French and Italian fluently and is a qualified ballet teacher, not a model.

Her Nigerian father and English mother met at Leeds University. She was five when, in 1968, with her mother, brother and sister, she fled from Nigeria to England in the wake of the civil war. Her mother quickly found a teaching job, but her father, although a senior civil servant, had been placed on the wrong side of the government by the war and was forbidden to leave. Although he visited his family's new home in Beckenham, Kent, he never lived with them again. He died in 1971.

Ekaette left Langley Park Grammar at 16 with a clutch of good O levels and while at the Laine Theatre Arts School spent her evenings at college to



Angela Ekaette: the articulate and intelligent "quiz show angel"

'This is the quickest way to get exposure and a name'

pass French and sociology A levels. On leaving she took a job as a dancer on an Italian cruise liner, where she learned Italian to add to her fluent French. Since then she has worked on a television variety show in Milan, at the English National Opera and with Back to Back, a touring French theatre company, where she played in *God's Bit of Wood*, a political play about a railway workers' strike in Senegal.

Alby James, the director of the Temba Theatre Company, was so struck by her performance that he recommended her for a part in a John Berger film. It was on her way back from that unsuccessful audition that Ekaette wandered into the Piccadilly Theatre to wait her turn among hundreds of others to audition for *Wheel*.

She did not have to think long about

accepting Scottish Television's offer when it came. It was not a question of the money; although the contract will pay her more than she has ever earned and personal appearances could make her as much again, she claims she does not know the figures and, anyway, has everything she needs at her house in Plumstead, south London. She laughs at a report of possible earnings of £200,000 a year.

"I have an all-round theatre and arts training. This is the quickest way to get exposure and establish myself as a name in the business. *Wheel of Fortune* is not going to be my life's work."

The problem is that the job of being a game show hostess, like the job of being a *Bond* girl, qualifies you for little else. Monica Rose, Hughie Green's foil on *Double Your Money*,

Anne Aston, the innumerate golden girl of *The Golden Shot*, Anthea "give-us-a-twist" Redfern — where are they now that their shows are cathode-ray history?

What, for that matter, will become of Vanna White, the species prize specimen (still extant). *Wheel of Fortune* requires of her nothing more than to look sensational. This she has done to such acclaim that last year she published an autobiography, which, acknowledging that until recently she was not even allowed to say hello, was entitled *Vanna Speaks*. Unfortunately, it seems that although America is frantic to discover what Vanna will be wearing tonight it cares little about what she has to say. Eighty thousand copies of *Vanna Speaks* were returned unsold.

More successful was a *Playboy* special edition devoted entirely to lingerie shots of her. Ekaette is dismayed when shown the book and does not join in the ribald commentary of Brian MacLaurin, STV's press controller. Ekaette's contract, he quickly says, specifically prohibits her from bikini or topless photography.

To make it clear that Vanna is no role model, she points out that she will be exchanging badinage with her co-host Nicky Campbell from day one, and that male models, not she, will show off the prizes. Her wardrobe will not ape the figure-hugging dresses modelled by Vanna: "I will be fun, cocktail party wear, and I will have a say in the design," she says firmly.

MacLaurin corrects her and reveals that a deal has already been done with a London fashion house. Ekaette looks surprised and jokes that if there is any more of this she will refuse to sign her contract.

"I have news for you, your agent already has," MacLaurin says. "He's done what?" Ekaette asks.

Things are patched up when MacLaurin speaks to the show's producer, who confirms that Ekaette will not be copying Vanna's "Exclusives" store *Dynasty* look. Exclusive contracts have been signed with Alistair Blair, Bellville Sassoon and Roland Klein but, of course, Ekaette will help decide.

Ekaette, who says she can "look after myself", is still miffed that she can be contracted to Scottish Television and not remember signing anything herself. Her agent is going to be in trouble when she speaks to him, she says. "I'm not awkward, but I know when to put my foot down, when it's important."

It is just possible that in picking her ITV has bitten off more than it can chew up. She is determined, articulate, intelligent and beautiful. She may even be enough of those first three to survive her transformation into Britain's Vanna White.

Getting the parents that society deserves



BARBARA AMIEL

In other words, we try to limit or eliminate misfortune, which has traditionally been a spur or stick inspiring people to act in certain prudent ways rather than imprudent ones.

All these conflicting goals do force certain conclusions. If the highly organized society has created structures that substitute for the family, and has removed many of the penalties for imprudence in life, it is a natural consequence that the family will start withering away. It withers much as a limb might, and this seems so self-evident that I find the call of government leaders, churches and policy planners to help the family rather puzzling. Essentially, it seems to me, our social policies bound the family's feet because sometimes they were used in a nasty manner for kicking. Then we gave them wheelchairs to get around and now, noting that the feet have withered, we want to send them to exercise classes to build up muscles under controlled conditions.

The point, I think, is this. Even assuming that everything we want is an unmitigated good, from the removal of life's hazards to the removal of the division of labour between men and women, we are refusing to recognize that certain inevitable consequences flow from this. It really is not in most people's best interests to raise a family. The so-called "right" kind of people to have children — future-orientated, solid, foresighted sort of people — are less likely to have children. Those people who act haphazardly, without much thought for consequences, may well continue to procreate, but they will have neither the capacity nor desire to look after their offspring.

The response of society to this is the real danger. The same state that introduced specialization in all other fields may well do that in the manufacture of families. Becoming a father or mother will have to be made a profession, I expect. Not in a totalitarian manner, of course, but in a way that begins with tax incentives for the best sort of people and could well lead down a road to a sort of cottage industry in egg-hatching. All the signs are there, including the muted demands for licensing of parents to the growing appeal for more and more professional child-care facilities. All that can stop it, I suppose, is a recognition that we can't have our cake and eat it. In the end it may simply be a question of what is least offensive to us: a society that can tolerate some babies who die with nappies in their stomachs because of inadequate parents, or the brave new world where all nappies are regulation white and some mothers are more equal than others.

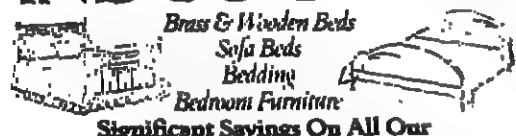
'It really is not in most people's best interests to raise a family'

and insurance arranged for our old age are evident.

We also want to end the division of labour between men and women, and do away with the notion that one member of the family has the primary goal of looking after the children while the other kills the land and hunts the buffalo. Technology, actually, makes this a natural and desirable wish. As soon as men discovered push buttons, women discovered they could do everything as well as men. In fact, I have never disagreed with the feminists in their desire to see women employed in all sorts of occupations. I simply took issue with their view that the previous division of labour was a sexist plot rather than a natural arrangement based on what best suited the survival of society at the time.

At the same time, as a society we find ourselves unable to live with the notion of casualties. We are appalled, for example, at children who die of hunger after eating their nappies. We are horrified by poverty. One can understand this, naturally, but the response is to create a society in which those hazards are removed or drastically reduced.

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AND SO TO BED

SATURDAY

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Armada fever

In July a chain of beacons stretching from the Lizard to Northumberland will be lit to mark the 400th anniversary of the Spanish Armada's defeat. The beacons herald some hundreds of Armada events up and down the country, lasting well into autumn: pike and gunnery displays, firing of salutes by the armed services, replicas of galleons, Elizabethan banquets and costumed balls, spit pigs, ox roasts... the list goes on. Read it tomorrow in *The Times* guide to the pick of the celebrations

Money-back card? That will do nicely

American Express are aiming their latest scheme at women — it comes with an offer that they will find hard to refuse

Susan Clark, a vice-president of American Express, is the very model of a modern American businesswoman. Assertive but not aggressive in her unstructured black jacket and cream silk blouse, she radiates the sort of quiet confidence with which the American Express card — green, gold or platinum — is supposed to imbue its holders all over the world.

Until recently, however, those carriers were almost exclusively male. Clark is in Britain, where women make up only 20 per cent of cardholders, to launch a scheme to redress the balance, a secret weapon in the Amex arsenal, thought to be even more powerful than Alan Whicker.

It is a revolutionary "Purchase Protection" programme, offered at no extra charge to Amex cardholders, which has just had a successful six-month trial run in America, and is aimed primarily at women. Women use their cards most intensively for shopping, whereas men chalk up more mileage on travel and entertainment.

There is, Clark says, smiling at any understandable incredulity, no catch. She knows it sounds too good to be true. But if you buy a £600 evening gown and spill wine on it the first evening out, Amex will refund your £600 with a smile. If the cat claws your new leather sofa, a passing puppy chews up your Charles Jourdan shoes or a friend's child doodles on your freshly hung silk curtains, Amex will make it up to you — providing that the purchase was made on your American Express card not more than 90 days before the incident.

Where items are already covered by a manufacturer's



Holding out a golden promise: Susan Clark

guarantee, or under household insurance, these will be invoked. "But often insurance carries a high deductible excess," Clark points out. "You may be out of pocket for the first £500 or so. Amex will then take care of that."

"From a marketing point of view, the hardest thing has been to make people believe in it," says Clark.

The concept seems to have caught the major credit card companies. Visa and Access, and Amex's chargecard rival, Diner's Club, by surprise. A Barclaycard spokeswoman said: "That sounds very interesting. I must say," and an Access spokeswoman also acknowledged: "It sounds an interesting scheme but we'd need to study the details to comment further." Lloyd's, one of the major participating Access banks, expressed "great interest" and some incredulity.

Ed Lawton of Banking Information Services, with an

overall view of the credit market, observed: "It certainly goes beyond the normal credit card guarantee on travel and faulty merchandise. A spokesman for the British Association of Insurers feels the £20,000 worth of cover offered for the £27.50 basic Amex charge per annum is "excellent value".

Americans have quickly caught on to the scheme. A watch eaten by a dog, a video cassette recorder filled with oatmeal by a two-year-old, a pair of tights thrown out by mistake, a stolen football and an \$800 pair of pyjamas lost in embarrassing circumstances — all were obligingly paid for.

Amex drew the line, however, when the minister of a wedding chapel in Las Vegas — who accepts the card for marriages — asked whether those he married could get their money back if the transaction ended in a quickie divorce.

Clark herself has, so far, only invoked purchase protection once: to replace a single broken martini glass from a new set. But she insists the system has been designed to be "user-friendly" to women and keep red tape to a minimum.

Those who find that a second or third £600 evening dress coincidentally has wine spilled upon it, should prepare for their claims to be very carefully scrutinized...

Victoria McKee

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[illegible]

TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear
and Tony Patrick

BBC1

- 6.00** *Cartoon AM*.
6.35 *The Messengers Club in Who's Zoo in Africa (D.V.)*. **6.55** *Weather*.
7.00 *Breakfast Time* with Jeremy Paxman and John Stapeleton. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. **8.30** *Regional news* and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. **8.30** *News and weather* followed by *Delta*. Pam's loathing of JP's machiavellian machinations brings her firmly into the *Barnes/Ewing* feud. (CeeFax) **9.30** *Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga*. The Leg Over.
10.00 *News and weather* followed by *Small World*. This last programme in the series on model makers and collectors features Walter Harper who has one of the finest collections of models covering the history of land, sea and air travel. (CeeFax) **10.15** *Cartoon*. *The Early Bird and the Worm*.
10.25 *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme details and *Cartoon* greetings followed by *Play School* (r), and *Paddington* (r). **10.55** *Five to Eleven*. A reading by Robert Glenister.
11.00 *News and weather* followed by *Yoor Mined in Their Hands*. The last programme in Dr Alan Mayson Davis's series examining mental health treatment in the National Health Service (r).
11.30 *On the House*. Home refurbishment series (r).
12.00 *The Famous Gooch* visits the East of England Agricultural Show at Peterborough (r). (CeeFax) **12.40** *Cartoon Double* (r). **12.45** *Regional news* and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. Weather 1.30. *Neighbours*. All Ramsay Street residents become involved with Des and Daphne's marital problems.
1.30 *News*.
1.50 *Wimbledon 88*. Harry Carpenter introduces live action from the Centre Court. One courts on the fifth day of the championships. (CeeFax)
4.10 *Pan Fairs 4.35* Film. *Sammy's Super T-shirt* (1978). A Children's Film Foundation-made story about a young athlete who achieves world beating times when he dons a special T-shirt. Directed by Jeremy Summers. **4.35** *Neighbours* (r).
6.00 *Size O'Clock News* with Nicholas Witchall and Andrew Harvey. Weather **6.30** *London Plus*.
7.00 *Wogan*. On tonight's guest list are Jilly Cooper, Cyril Fletcher and adventure brothers Laurence and Lorne Star. Plus a song from Tracy Chapman.
7.40 *No Place Like Home*. Domestic comedy starring William Gaurant and Patricia Garwood (r). (CeeFax)
8.15 *Dynasty*. The last episode of the season and the battle for baby Carrington reaches a climax, but will Jeff and Sammy Jo name the day? and why is Krystle suffering from strange headaches? (CeeFax)
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martin Lewis and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.
9.30 *Rocklife's* *Badlands*. Georgia is mugged and his wallet is stolen containing his warrant card and a ticket for a boxing match. He acquires another ticket only to discover it is forged - but the real worry is the missing warrant card (r). (CeeFax)
10.30 *Wimbledon 88* Match of the Day. Highlights of the fifth day's play. (CeeFax)
11.20 *Film: A Place of the Action* (1977) starring Sidney Poitier and Bill Cosby. Comedy about two crooks with a difference - they only rob other criminals. But a problem arises when one of the victims decides to get his own back. Directed by Sidney Poitier.
1.30 *News*.

BBC2

- 6.55** *Open University: Science Foundation Course - Summer School*. Ends at 7.30.
8.00 *Cartoon*.
8.55 *Daytime on Two*: sex education 10.15 *Cartoon* 10.35 *Regional news* and weather 10.55 *The story of Toby the Tug* 11.15 *Cartoon* 11.35 *The making of The Kenny Everett Television Show* 12.35 *Cartoon* 12.40 *Cartoon Double* (r). **12.45** *Regional news* and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. Weather 1.30. *Neighbours*. All Ramsay Street residents become involved with Des and Daphne's marital problems.
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1.30 *News*.

ITV/LONDON

- 6.00** *TV-80* begins with *The Morning Programme* introduced by Richard Keys. **7.00** *Good Morning Britain* with Mike Morris and Richard Keys. After Nine includes Russell Grant's astrology slot.
9.25 *Thames news*.
9.30 *Presented*. Word association game presented by Gordon Burns. The guests are Sir St Clair and Lani Harper. **10.00** *Santa Barbara*. **10.25** *News headlines*.
10.30 *The Time*. The *Black... White* chair a discussion on abortion. Among the guests are Diana Lamplugh, members of the Metropolitan Police and people who have suffered from abortion. **11.10** *Rainbow*. Learning with puppets (r). **11.25** *Thames news headlines*.
11.30 *Jeopardy*. One hundred winners discuss how their careers are progressing (r). **12.00** *Game Street*. Music and chess show presented by Suzi Quatro. Among the guests is hang glider pilot Judy Leach. **12.30** *The Saturday*. Drama serial about the Austen family during the 1940s.
1.00 *News at One* with Julia Somerville. **1.30** *Thames news*. **1.35** *Revelst & Hockley* (Thames). The *Donnerstag* partnership is threatened when a clairvoyant tries to exorcise Hopkirk (r). **2.30** to **3.00** *S. American comedy series* about office.
3.00 *Take the High Road*. Catherine receives sad news; and Sam plans something special for his wedding. **3.30** *News headlines*. **3.30** *South and Daughters*. Australian family drama serial.
4.00 *Badman Moon* (r). **4.10** *The Telephone* (r). **4.20** *Scotchby Doe*. **4.45** *Splash*. Two expert cyclists put Nino Fretto through his paces as he prepares for next week's London to Paris cycle ride; reporter Kerry Matthews meets new chicks at Silmbridge. **5.00** *Thames news*. **5.05** *Thames news*. **5.10** *Thames news*. **5.15** *Thames news*. **5.20** *Thames news*. **5.25** *Thames news*. **5.30** *Thames news*. **5.35** *Thames news*. **5.40** *Thames news*. **5.45** *Thames news*. **5.50** *Thames news*. **5.55** *Thames news*. **6.00** *Thames news*. **6.05** *Thames news*. **6.10** *Thames news*. **6.15** *Thames news*. **6.20** *Thames news*. **6.25** *Thames news*. **6.30** *Thames news*. **6.35** *Thames news*. **6.40** *Thames news*. **6.45** *Thames news*. **6.50** *Thames news*. **6.55** *Thames news*. **7.00** *Thames news*. **7.05** *Thames news*. **7.10** *Thames news*. **7.15** *Thames news*. **7.20** *Thames news*. **7.25** *Thames news*. **7.30** *Thames news*. **7.35** *Thames news*. **7.40** *Thames news*. **7.45** *Thames news*. **7.50** 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CHANNEL 4

- 6.30** *Schools*.
12.00 *News in Focus*. **12.30** *News in Focus*. **1.00** *On Campus*. Magazine series for Open College trainees.
2.00 *The Parliament Programme*. **2.30** *The Parliament Programme*. A documentary in which survivors of the Battle of the Somme recall the carnage (r).
3.30 *Time to Remember* (r). The final programme of the series tracing the history of Britain from Victorian times to the end of the Second World War (r).
4.00 *Arctic Spirits*. A documentary about the environmental movement that is sweeping through Eskimo villages of the Canadian Arctic (r).
4.30 *Comedy*.
5.00 *Master Ed* (r). **5.30** *Master Ed* (r). **6.00** *Master Ed* (r). **6.30** *Master Ed* (r). **7.00** *Master Ed* (r). **7.30** *Master Ed* (r). **8.00** *Master Ed* (r). **8.30 *Master Ed* (r). **9.00 *Master Ed* (r). **9.30 *Master Ed* (r). **10.00 *Master Ed* (r). **10.30 *Master Ed* (r). **11.00 *Master Ed* (r). **11.30 *Master Ed* (r). **12.00 *Master Ed* (r). **12.30 *Master Ed* (r). **13.00 *Master Ed* (r). **13.30 *Master Ed* (r). **14.00 *Master Ed* (r). **14.30 *Master Ed* (r). **15.00 *Master Ed* (r). **15.30 *Master Ed* (r). **16.00 *Master Ed* (r). **16.30 *Master Ed* (r). **17.00 *Master Ed* (r). **17.30 *Master Ed* (r). **18.00 *Master Ed* (r). **18.30 *Master Ed* (r). **19.00 *Master Ed* (r). **19.30 *Master Ed* (r). **20.00 *Master Ed* (r). **20.30 *Master Ed* (r). **21.00 *Master Ed* (r). **21.30 *Master Ed* (r). **22.00 *Master Ed* (r). **22.30 *Master Ed* (r). **23.00 *Master Ed* (r). **23.30 *Master Ed* (r). **24.00 *Master Ed* (r).**



Pressure point: Student nurse Sasha Elton attends Robert Crowther (Jimmy's TTV, 7pm)

Appeal of real-life drama

Back for a second series, and promoted to a peak hour slot twice a week, Jimmy's (ITV, 7.00pm) offers more drama from Britain's largest and busiest general hospital, St James's University Hospital in Leeds. Whether the delivery of a baby is quite the stuff of peak hour viewing is debatable, but times are changing and what, only a few years ago, would have been viewers jamming the switchboards may now be acceptable as family fare. The essential appeal of such a series is that it is soap opera played out by real people. Here, for the public gaze, are the lives and problems of ordinary humans, whether patients or medical

TELEVISION CHOICE

staff, distilled into a series of crises, some happily resolved, others, just in real life, refusing to go away. Formally, too, the series follows the soap opera conventions of overlapping stories and the cliffhanger which ensures that a high proportion of viewers will tune in next time. Tonight's programme is built around Mrs Estelle Kendrick, a diabetic who is 37 weeks pregnant and may need a Caesarean. It is a low-key drama but an effective one which will strike many chords. Interact with Mrs Kendrick

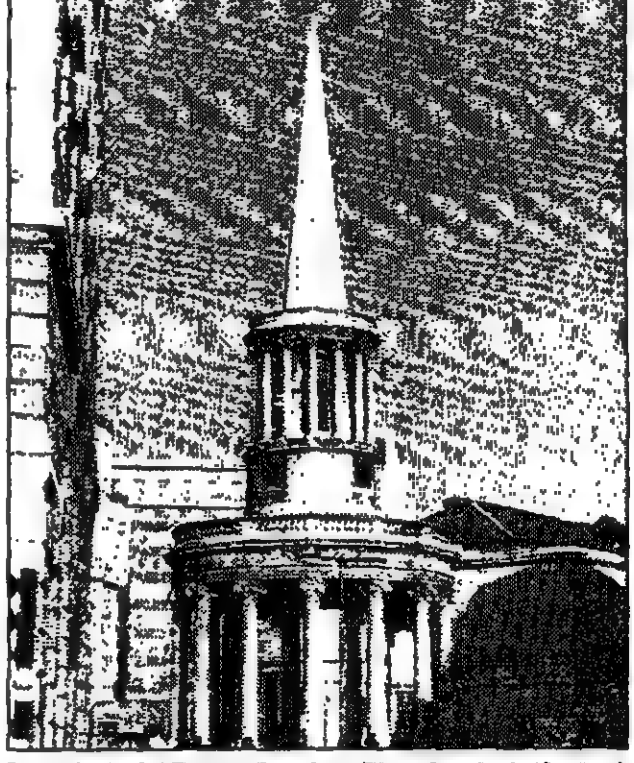
are a series of sub-plots: a plastic surgeon explaining that, no he doesn't spend most of his time interfering with young ladies' chests or changing the appearances of criminals, a man who needs an operation for mouth cancer, new nurses settling into their digs. Touchy Tory politicians remembering *Casualties* will be glad to know that there is little about the over-stretched and underfunded National Health Service. A curiosity is why a hospital in the heart of Yorkshire should apparently be run by Scots. Perhaps this becomes clear in a future episode.

Peter Waymark

Scattered sheep gather

RADIO CHOICE

The question that's most engaging my mind this morning is how on earth all those in London and the South-East who regularly listen to Radio 4's *Daily Service* (10.45am) will be squeezed into All Souls', Langham Place - not the most cavernous church in London. And yet, all of them are invited to join the BBC Singers in the 60th birthday celebrations of a programme, which, under an ecclesiastical umbrella, has blessed Bible readings, prayers, psalms and hymns with a master's touch. The winning formula can be enjoyed elsewhere in the country next week, because the London celebrations are being duplicated in Manchester and Cardiff (Monday), Belfast (Tuesday), Coventry (Wednesday) and Bristol (Thursday). The genesis of *Daily Service* is described in *The Church of the Air* (published for the BBC by Marshall Pickering, at £3.95), the official souvenir of the birthday celebrations. Kathleen Cordeux, of Bushey, Herts, wrote to *Radio Times* in 1926 urging a daily service. For two years, she bombarded the BBC



Room inside? All Souls Langham Place (Radio 4, 10.45am)

with letters. Not even the BBC's godhead, John Reith, was spared. When all seemed lost, she organized a printed appeal and petition and netted 5,000 signatures. She got her daily service, not the half hour

Peter Davalle

- BBC1** *Wales Today* 6.30-7.00 News followed by *Neighbours* 7.30-8.00. **6.35** *News and weather* 6.55 *Weather*. **7.00** *Breakfast Time* with Jeremy Paxman and John Stapeleton. Includes national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; weather at 7.25, 7.55 and 8.25; regional news and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. **8.30** *Regional news* and travel reports at 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27. **8.30** *News and weather* followed by *Delta*. Pam's loathing of JP's machiavellian machinations brings her firmly into the *Barnes/Ewing* feud. (CeeFax) **9.30** *Lyn Marshall's Everyday Yoga*. The Leg Over.
10.00 *News and weather* followed by *Small World*. This last programme in the series on model makers and collectors features Walter Harper who has one of the finest collections of models covering the history of land, sea and air travel. (CeeFax) **10.15** *Cartoon*. *The Early Bird and the Worm*.
10.25 *Children's BBC*. Andy Crane with programme details and *Cartoon* greetings followed by *Play School* (r), and *Paddington* (r). **10.55** *Five to Eleven*. A reading by Robert Glenister.
11.00 *News and weather* followed by *Yoor Mined in Their Hands*. The last programme in Dr Alan Mayson Davis's series examining mental health treatment in the National Health Service (r).
11.30 *On the House*. Home refurbishment series (r).
12.00 *The Famous Gooch* visits the East of England Agricultural Show at Peterborough (r). (CeeFax) **12.40** *Cartoon Double* (r). **12.45** *Regional news* and weather.
1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Michael Barker. Weather 1.30. *Neighbours*. All Ramsay Street residents become involved with Des and Daphne's marital problems.
1.30 *News*.
1.50 *Wimbledon 88*. Harry Carpenter introduces live action from the Centre Court. One courts on the fifth day of the championships. (CeeFax)
4.10 *Pan Fairs 4.35* Film. *Sammy's Super T-shirt* (1978). A Children's Film Foundation-made story about a young athlete who achieves world beating times when he dons a special T-shirt. Directed by Jeremy Summers. **4.35** *Neighbours* (r).
6.00 *Size O'Clock News* with Nicholas Witchall and Andrew Harvey. Weather **6.30** *London Plus*.
7.00 *Wogan*. On tonight's guest list are Jilly Cooper, Cyril Fletcher and adventure brothers Laurence and Lorne Star. Plus a song from Tracy Chapman.
7.40 *No Place Like Home*. Domestic comedy starring William Gaurant and Patricia Garwood (r). (CeeFax)
8.15 *Dynasty*. The last episode of the season and the battle for baby Carrington reaches a climax, but will Jeff and Sammy Jo name the day? and why is Krystle suffering from strange headaches? (CeeFax)
9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Martin Lewis and Andrew Harvey. Regional news and weather.
9.30 *Rocklife's* *Badlands*. Georgia is mugged and his wallet is stolen containing his warrant card and a ticket for a boxing match. He acquires another ticket only to discover it is forged - but the real worry is the missing warrant card (r). (CeeFax)
10.30 *Wimbledon 88* Match of the Day. Highlights of the fifth day's play. (CeeFax)
11.20 *Film: A Place of the Action* (1977) starring Sidney Poitier and Bill Cosby. Comedy about two crooks with a difference - they only rob other criminals. But a problem arises when one of the victims decides to get his own back. Directed by Sidney Poitier.
1.30 *News*.

- 6.30** *Schools*.
12.00 *News in Focus*. **12.30** *News in Focus*. **1.00** *On Campus*. Magazine series for Open College trainees.
2.00 *The Parliament Programme*. **2.30** *The Parliament Programme*. A documentary in which survivors of the Battle of the Somme recall the carnage (r).
3.30 *Time to Remember* (r). The final programme of the series tracing the history of Britain from Victorian times to the end of the Second World War (r).
4.00 *Arctic Spirits*. A documentary about the environmental movement that is sweeping through Eskimo villages of the Canadian Arctic (r).
4.30 *Comedy*.
5.00 *Master Ed* (r). **5.30** *Master Ed* (r). **6.00** *Master Ed* (r). **6.30** *Master Ed* (r). **7.00** *Master Ed* (r). **7.30** *Master Ed* (r). **8.00** *Master Ed* (r). **8.30 *Master Ed* (r). **9.00 *Master Ed* (r). **9.30 *Master Ed* (r). **10.00 *Master Ed* (r). **10.30 *Master Ed* (r). **11.00 *Master Ed* (r). **11.30 *Master Ed* (r). **12.00 *Master Ed* (r). **12.30 *Master Ed* (r). **13.00 *Master Ed* (r). **13.30 *Master Ed* (r). **14.00 *Master Ed* (r). **14.30 *Master Ed* (r). **15.0****************************

Attenborough in attack on government TV policy

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

Sir Richard Attenborough, chairman of Channel 4 and one of Britain's leading film directors, yesterday launched an unprecedented public assault on the Government's piecemeal approach to broadcasting policy. He said that the outcome could be "disastrous".

There was an "extraordinary" amount of evidence to suggest that ministerial annoyance with what was perceived as TV bias against the Government was partly responsible for the attack on the television industry and the flood of new ideas.

He came close to suggesting that Britain would be moving towards a totalitarian state if the Government eroded the public service broadcasting role performed at present by the BBC.

Sir Richard said he was distressed that British television was being treated like "a shuttlecock which is bashed from one side of the ring to the other."

He was speaking less than 24 hours after Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, had made the latest in a long line of varying ministerial pronouncements about broadcasting.

Sir Richard added: "Various ideas which appear to be both ill-judged, ill-considered and certainly (made) without consultation, are suddenly thrown into the public debate without any connection with the statement that was made last week by someone else."



Sir Richard Attenborough: TV policy is 'disastrous'

"I believe the television service, which is the envy of the world, is entitled to better treatment than that."

"It is somewhat frightening that television is being treated in this way."

Sir Richard made his thoughts known at the launch in London of the annual report of the British Screen Advisory Council, of which he is chairman.

He viewed the proposal to transfer Channel 4 to satellite with "enormous apprehension" and the station was in the process of writing to Lord Young of Grafton, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

To suggest suddenly that each household wanting to watch Channel 4 would have to spend £200 on a satellite dish was a denial of the station's special remit and the Act of Parliament underpinning its creation.

He indicated that Channel 4 would be insisting "there is no question whatsoever of our losing our normal transmission ability until the number of people who wish to see our programmes are able to do so and have decided to do so by satellite."

That was unlikely to occur this century.

Public service broadcasting, which had as its inalienable right an autonomy of attitude and interpretation of presentation, was "an absolutely vital element in our future society."

He added: "Anything that Government does which erodes that or to erode the capability of Channel 4, which is my concern, is in fact moving towards, not a totalitarian state, but a circumstance and an atmosphere in which the dissemination of information and the resultant actions and reactions and attitudes are predetermined by the constraints of that one media possibility."

It was crucial that there should be a television channel which was not within the purview of the Government or advertisers.

Summer line-up, page 4

300 feared dead in mudslide



Rescue workers searching for up to 300 people feared lost when a mudslide engulfed the Turkish village of Catak yesterday.

Continued from page 1

Koksal said: "We were eating when a sudden panic broke out and I found myself in the stream." He said there were more than 100 people in a restaurant and a coffee house, and that there were five or six buses parked outside.

Mr Huseyin Mert, an injured survivor, remembered seeing "the mountain suddenly coming at us". He said that there were foreign tourists in the crowd. The area attracts tourists who visit a medieval monastery.

Driving rain was reported to

be hampering the rescue work. A field hospital was set up and communications restored as emergency supplies and medical equipment were sent from nearby provinces, reports said. Troops were also reported to have been called to help the rescue work.

Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, who survived an assassination attempt at the weekend, pledged every assistance to survivors and the families of the victims, while President Evren and opposition leaders expressed sorrow over what threatened to be Turkey's worst disaster since

the deaths of 104 miners in a methane gas explosion six years ago.

A witness was quoted as seeing a driver, frantically trying to change a burst tyre of an earthmover, being buried by the moving earth hours before the major disaster struck.

The Public Works Minister, Mr Safa Giray said: "We hope and believe there are survivors in the cars and the restaurants."

"I do not want to mention any figures about the number of dead or injured. Work is

continuing," he said in Ankara after visiting the scene.

It was not known if any children had been in the school, due to have opened an hour after the slide hit.

Mr Alaattin Yanik, a Trabzon highway official, said it could take up to 15 days to clear the debris.

"The position of the mountain is frightening us because with rain there could be more slides. Rescue teams have to go very carefully," he said.

Fresh landslides were later reported to have halted rescuers as dusk fell.

Commons sketch

I say, I say, I say, it's Mrs Memory

One of the least satisfactory aspects of the Parliamentary music-hall is that the warm-up acts are rarely up to scratch. Their material is poor, their presentation poorer, and yet there they are, juggling with a single ball, producing dead rabbits out of bottomless hats, telling irritating old jokes, all as pleased as punch.

For a short while early in the year, Ron Brown, Mace-Hunter Extraordinaire, found himself topping the bill, but his act proved too expensive to continue on a regular basis, so he has now ditched it for his old, somewhat less enthralling routine, "Mumbling". This he performs in a vehemently Scottish accent, so that those few words that rise above the general mumble are themselves brilliantly disguised, the whole becoming indistinguishable to all but sharp-eyed experts in dialect.

Yesterday, his mumbling was on top form. "Erumph, erumph, erumph," he began, and then something went horribly wrong, and distinct words could be heard by horrified onlookers. "Erumph, er—some who are anti-Khomeini are now pro-Khomeini," he said, but then, just as everyone was thinking that he was about to plummet into comprehensibility, he regained his composure and concluded with a spirited, "Erumph, erumph, erumph."

Conservative warm-up acts used to be two-a-penny, but now, after the remarkable transformation of the country after a period of nine years of sound economic policies, they can be picked up for at least three-a-penny. They tend to be red-faced comedians with a difference, the difference being that they aren't able to tell jokes. One of them rose to complain to the Home Secretary that there had been a TV diet of "England losing at cricket and England losing at tennis."

To a certain extent, these Conservative back-benchers can be best classified as ventriloquists, for they love to speak for England. "The majority of people," boomed Mr Richard Holt, his lips quite obviously moving, "are fed up with four-letter words on television and the sight of men urinating into lava-

tories". Far worse if they urinated elsewhere, the Minister might have replied, but by this time he seemed bored with the whole lot of them, as anxious as anyone to make way for the Main Event—the Prime Minister, fresh from a sell-out tour of Toronto.

Each member sees something a little different in her act. To Mr Tam Dalyell, she is a reluctant Mrs Memory, choc-a-bloc with secrets about events long-forgotten by everyone else, yet annoyingly reticent when it comes to divulging them. Tam the Tortured Toad was back again to perform his long-running Westland routine. Once again, he wanted to know about the role of Mr Leon Brittan in the Westland affair.

Speak for Brittan, Margaret! Yet Mrs Memory would not budge. "As I've told him many times, I have nothing to add," she sighed. But the audience wouldn't let her go. "Isn't it about time she came clean and told the whole truth about the Westland affair?" yelled another Labour backbencher. "Nothing further to add," Mrs Memory repeated.

OOOOH! The Leader of the Opposition, the famous one man Kinnock-Kinnock joke, pranced on to the stage, arms a-flapping. Straightaway, he started talking economics, and he had them hooting in the stalls. Have you heard the one about the rise in interest rates? he asked. "The Government has completely lost control," came his punch-line, and everyone thought it a scream. The marvellous thing about this comedian is that you never laugh with him, you laugh at him.

Up popped Poor Bob Maclean, an even funnier version of Greyfriars Bobby. He doesn't even have to say anything to get them howling with laughter, but if he does say something, then so much the better. He spoke with deadly seriousness, to much amusement, about the "historic yo-yoing of the exchange rates."

"What's the trade deficit on yo-yos?" chipped in Mr Dennis Skinner, while Greyfriars Bob returned once more to watch over the grave of the Alliance.

Craig Brown

Two men eliminated from M50 murder inquiry Investors vent anger on DTI

By Craig Seton

Detectives yesterday appeared no closer to solving the murder of Mrs Marie Wilks, four days after her body was found down an embankment of the M50 motorway near London, Hereford and Worcester.

Two men who had been questioned by police in different parts of the country yesterday were eliminated from the murder investigation. One, from Aberystwyth, mid-Wales, satisfied police that bloodstains in a car he

had hired came from a passenger with a perforated ear drum. The second, questioned by police in the North of England, was also ruled out of the inquiry.

Mrs Wilks, aged 22, was abducted on the M50 last Saturday as she used an emergency telephone to report that her car had broken down. Her body was found on Monday night at the bottom of a grassy embankment only three miles further along the east-bound carriageway.

West Mercia police, who are

hunting the killer, believe that he and the silver-grey car he was using were bloodstained after he stabbed Mrs Wilks in the neck, severing her jugular vein.

Detectives remained baffled about the motive for the killing of the pregnant mother. But they are considering the possibility that she died because she fought back—that she was stabbed as she struggled with the abductor, who may have been a sex attacker.

Police forensic scientists are now examining scrapings

from Mrs Wilks' fingernails which may contain skin or other material from her attacker. Det Chief Supt David Cole, head of West Mercia CID, said yesterday that a tuft of grass was found clutched in Mrs Wilks' hand.

He said: "It indicates that she tried to get up the bank."

Detectives appealed for a man, who twice telephoned Strathclyde police in Glasgow to say he had seen Mrs Wilks on the M50 last Saturday, to come forward and help.

The man, who did not give

his name, said he and his wife were returning from holiday when they saw a pregnant woman using an emergency telephone box on the motorway at about the time Mrs Wilks disappeared.

Police have received more than 100 calls from the public about the silver-grey saloon car they believe was used by the killer.

Detectives think it could have been a Carlton, Sierra or Renault 25.

Incident room, page 3

Continued from page 1

that the Government provide compensation for the loss of the life savings.

Mr David Pine, of Alexander Tatham, said: "The obvious solution to enable investors to get a substantial return would be a compensation fund from the Government, hopefully on an *ex gratia* basis."

But he did not rule out the possibility of suing the DTI. In fact, investors at the meeting voted overwhelmingly to contribute £100 each to a

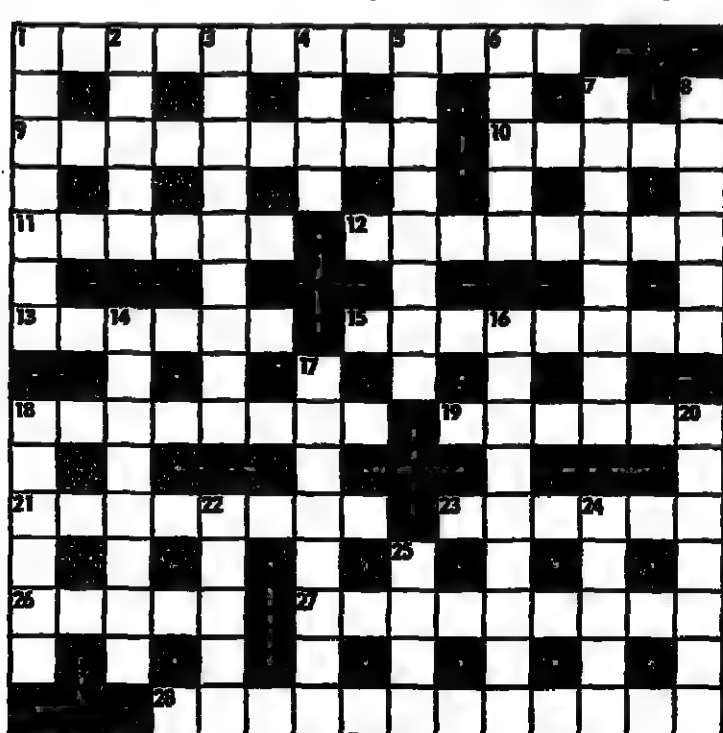
fighting fund to investigate the legal redress they could have against the DTI. Other possible targets for legal action include the 300 or so intermediaries who put thousands of investors' money into Barlow Clowes.

About 18,000 investors have put approximately £190 million into Barlow Clowes. They face losses of more than £100 million as much of their money has gone into dubious loans to companies connected with Mr Clowes rather than government securities.

The Times has already revealed that top level warnings from a city watchdog about Barlow Clowes were ignored by DTI officials in 1985 and that the firm was granted a licence to deal with the public despite strong evidence that it had been trading illegally for more than a year. Lord Young, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry last week announced an independent inquiry to investigate his department's handling of the Barlow Clowes affair.

Photograph, page 3

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,704



ACROSS

- Thesaurus explanation gaining currency (8,4).
- Cowardly show, motorists in train! (9).
- A professional note-writer for the speaker (5).
- Popular favourites backed together (2,4).
- It's a mistake to admit tired reaction (8).
- Bird familiar in shooting circles (6).
- One gets false report listening to white man perhaps (8).
- Cleric whose indulgence one might seek (8).
- Fellow going back years in the wine cellar (6).
- Had crash, somehow emerged unharmed from fire (8).
- Such a cheque must distress 16 (6).
- One of Gray's poor records—short and simple (5).
- Rash wrongly suspected (3-6).
- The drama ran, being effectively presented (5-7).

DOWN

- Action painting of match is poor (7).
- Cockney handles mischievous children (5).
- The battlefield is bright crimson (9).
- Horse running under two colours (4).
- Send eels off—not wanted here (8).
- Sum me up as the image of my family, perhaps (5).
- Need girl be made to put a belt on? (8).
- Scottish critic familiar with Fletcher's works (6).
- Speaks to the point, she does (8).
- Duke of York's contradictory hilltop order? (5,4).
- Delightful drawing (8).
- French scientist, discoverer of sulphur in different states (6).
- Sailor assaulted, we hear, and injured (7).
- Doorkeeper upset, being fired again (5).
- Motherly follower of a beafrican prince? (5).
- Learn diet (4).

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

- TORTICOLLIS**
a. A gold necklace
b. A stiff neck
c. A bogus bill, as in the Electric Blue, darkest Ayrshire
- FLAVICOMOUS**
a. Yellow-headed
b. Grass-growing
c. Tripodising
- PHONOPHOBIA**
a. The squeaky genre of plants
b. Fear of fish
c. Delirium of hard work
- BRASSAGE**
a. The coat of colouring
b. A woman's undergarment
c. A piece of hand armour

Answers on page 22, column 1

Solution to Puzzle No 17,703

JACKANAPES STOP
BENEFIT PRIVATE
O S E R U V N S
TRUNCHEON EAGLE
L T S G R M M
N Y O I N E
STEREOSTER SITED
T A N R S R
ADMIT BOOMERANG
T R I O U E T
E Z V E L N E S
R N E A A D V E R T I S E S

WEATHER

land will be cloudy with rain or drizzle. Cooler, cloudy weather will gradually spread south-east to southern Scotland and Northern Ireland. Outlook: cloudy and damp in the North; warm with sunny spells and showers in the South.

ABROAD

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	28/19	S	100	
Amman	27/18	S	100	
Algiers	28/19	S	100	
Antwerp	18/14	N	100	
Athens	28/19	S	100	
Bahia	28/19	S	100	
Batavia	28/19	S	100	
Bombay	28/19	S	100	
Buenos Aires	28/19	S	100	
Calcutta	28/19	S	100	
Canton	28/19	S	100	
Cebu	28/19	S	100	
Colon	28/19	S	100	
Hankow	28/19	S	100	
Harbin	28/19	S	100	
Hong Kong	28/19	S	100	
Kobe	28/19	S	100	
London	28/19	S	100	
Lyons	28/19	S	100	
Manila	28/19	S	100	
Medan	28/19	S	100	
Osaka	28/19	S	100	
Peking	28/19	S	100	
Rangoon	28/19	S	100	
San Francisco	28/19	S	100	
Shanghai	28/19	S	100	
Singapore	28/19	S	100	
Sourabaya	28/19	S	100	
Tientsin	28/19	S	100	
Yokohama	28/19	S	100	

AROUND BRITAIN

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Cardiff	12/7	W	100	
Edinburgh	12/7	W	100	
London	12/7	W	100	
Manchester	12/7	W	100	
Newcastle	12/7	W	100	
Nottingham	12/7	W	100	
Sheffield	12/7	W	100	
Sunderland	12/7	W	100	
Swansea	12/7	W	100	
Torquay	12/7	W	100	
Wrexham	12/7	W	100	

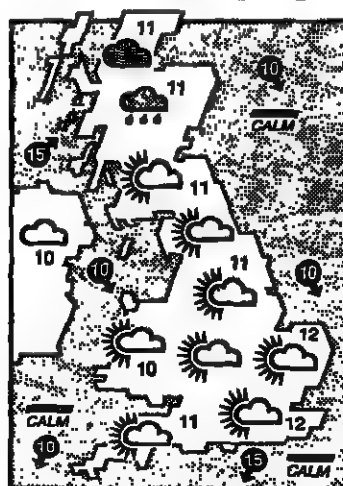
HIGH TIMES

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	12/7	W	100	
Edinburgh	12/7	W	100	
Manchester	12/7	W	100	
Newcastle	12/7	W	100	
Nottingham	12/7	W	100	
Sheffield	12/7	W	100	
Sunderland	12/7	W	100	
Swansea	12/7	W	100	
Torquay	12/7	W	100	
Wrexham	12/7	W	100	

THE POUND

Location	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
London	12/7	W	100	
Edinburgh	12/7	W	100	
Manchester	12/7	W	100	
Newcastle	12/7	W	100	
Nottingham	12/7	W	100	
Sheffield	12/7	W	100	
Sunderland	12/7	W	100	
Swansea	12/7	W	100	
Torquay	12/7	W	100	
Wrexham	12/7	W	100	

AM



LONDON

Yesterday: Temp: max 28 to 30, 24C (75F); min 10 to 12, 50 to 54F. Humidity: 60 to 70 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1026 mbars. Wind: 10 to 15 mph, 10 to 15 mph.

LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 9.52 pm to 4.14 am
Bristol 10.01 pm to 4.24 am
Edinburgh 10.33 pm to 5.50 am
Manchester 10.12 pm to 4.11 am
Penzance 10.06 pm to 4.43 am

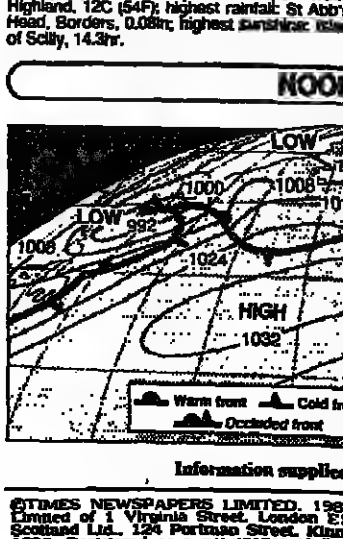
POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 118. 7/10 high. Forecast for today, high for the next 24 hours: 100 to 150. Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau: 0800 500491.

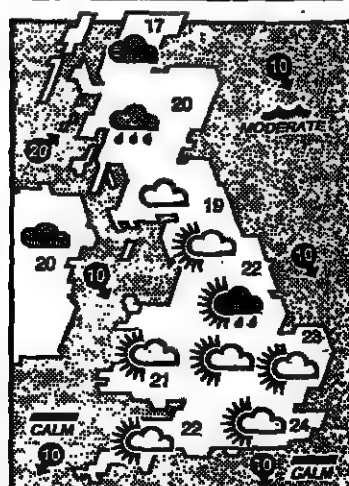
HIGHEST & LOWEST

Wednesday: Highest day temp: Bournemouth, 22C (72F); lowest day temp: Cape Wrath, Highland, 12C (54F). Highest rainfall: St Austine, 0.08 in; lowest rainfall: 0.00 in.

NOON TODAY



PM



MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 28 to 30, 24C (75F); min 10 to 12, 50 to 54F. Humidity: 60 to 70 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1026 mbars. Wind: 10 to 15 mph, 10 to 15 mph.

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be lifted at the following times today: 7.00am, 10.15am, 3.50pm, and 7.30pm.

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c. 14 to 16, 57 to 61F. Rain: 1, 1.5 in; sun: 1.5 in.

STOCK WATCH

Market	Index	Change
London	2250	+10
New York	2250	+10
Hong Kong	2250	+10
Shanghai	2250	+10
Beijing	2250	+10
Taipei	2250	+10
Seoul	2250	+10
Osaka	2250	+10
Tokyo	2250	+10
Singapore	2250	+10
Bangkok	2250	+10
Manila	2250	+10
Cebu	2250	+10
Colombo	2250	+10
Rangoon	2250	+10
Yokohama	2250	+10
Kobe	2250	+10
Osaka	2250	+10
Tokyo	2250	+10
Singapore	2250	+10
Bangkok	2250	+10
Manila	2250	+10
Cebu	2250	+10
Colombo	2250	+10
Rangoon	2250	+10
Yokohama	2250	+10
Kobe	2250	+10
Osaka	2250	+10
Tokyo	2250	+10
Singapore	2250	+10
Bangkok	2250	+10
Manila	2250	+10
Cebu	2250	+10

MARKETS	THE POUND
FT 30 Share 1496.7 (+0.2)	US dollar 1.7575 (-0.0135)
FT-SE 100 1878.9 (-0.4)	W German mark 3.1371 (-0.0082)
USM (Datastream) 160.78 (+0.33)	Trade-weighted 76.1 (-0.4)

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Rothmans cash pile at £442m

Rothmans International, in which the South African Rembrandt group has a 43 per cent voting stake, said yesterday that it was looking for a home for its net liquid funds which totalled £442.4 million at its March year-end. Its cash pile rose by £114.1 million during the year and Sir Robert Crich-ton-Brown, the chairman, said: "We now face the challenge of reinvestment."

The tobacco and luxury products group achieved pre-tax profits of £288.8 million compared with £195.5 million.

The final dividend is raised from 5.2p to 7p, making 10p (7.7p). The shares were 1p easier at 446p.

Temper, page 24

Price rise

Rugby Group, one of Britain's three manufacturers of cement, is to increase its prices by £2.53 a tonne from August 1 - just under 5 per cent.

Quote sought

Paxus Corporation, the Australian-based computer group specifically serving the insurance industry, in which NZI Corporation has a 59.4 per cent stake, intends seeking a London stock market listing.

STOCK MARKETS

New York		
Dow Jones	2147.58	(-4.82%)
Nikkei		
Nikkei Average	27732.93	(-127.85)
Hong Kong		
Hang Seng	2712.24	(+8.5)
Amsterdam Gen	282.8	(+2.1)
Sydney AO	1600.0	(-12.8)
Frankfurt		
Commerzbank	1438.4	(-3.8)
Brussels		
General	5012.5	(+82.2)
Paris CAC		n/a
Zurich S&K Gen	507.1	(+38.1)
London		
FT-A All-Share	970.75	(+0.85)
FT-100	1059.94	(+0.98)
FT Gold Mines	214.1	(-1.5)
FT Food Interest	98.02	(+0.03)
FT Govt Secs	88.82	(-0.33)
Recent Issues		Page 25

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISERS	FALLERS
Rowntree	107.50 (+37.5p)
Henderson Adm	630p (+20p)
CE Health	448p (+21p)
Lopex	207.5p (+17p)
Int'l Thomson	655p (+35p)
Anglo Cro	664p (+17p)
Calcedonia	382.5p (+14p)
H Barrett	182.5p (+13p)
General Accident	507.5p (+11p)
Anglia Secure	45.5p (+1p)
S Miller	158.5p (+20p)
Parish	195p (+10p)
Candover	380p (+10p)
Quadrant Group	407.5p (+20p)
BRF	407.5p (+20p)
Cadbury	425p (+3p)
UK Land	737.5p (+38p)

London	New York
£1.7575	£1.7587
DM3.1371	DM1.7580
Swf12.5914	Swf1.7777
FF10.5608	FF16.0120
Yen225.01	Yen126.82
Index76.1	Index76.1
ECU 20.62064	ECU 20.75739

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank 91/92	9%
3-month eligible bills 91/92	8 1/2%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate 9%	
Federal Funds 7 1/2%	
3-month Treasury Bills 6.50-6.48%	
30-year bonds 10 1/2-10 1/2%	

CURRENCIES

London	New York
£1.7575	£1.7587
DM3.1371	DM1.7580
Swf12.5914	Swf1.7777
FF10.5608	FF16.0120
Yen225.01	Yen126.82
Index76.1	Index76.1
ECU 20.62064	ECU 20.75739

GOLD

London Fixing	AM \$447.50 pm \$447.80
close \$448.00-448.50 (\$255.50-256.00)	
New York	Comex \$448.40-448.50

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Aug.)	pm \$15.00 bbl
Denotes latest trading price	

THE TIMES STOCK WATCH

0898 141 141

● Market news on Stockwatch yesterday included: speculative demand added 30p to Pavilion Leisure (02893); Macarthy (02578) lost 22p despite a profits increase; bid talks pushed Harris Queensway (01256) up 5p.

● Name changes include: Quicks Group (formerly HJ Quicks); Cluff Oil Resources (Cluff Oil Holdings); J Jarvis Holdings (J Jarvis and Sons); and Alpine Group (Alpine Soft Drinks). Sharecodes are unchanged.

● Calls charged at 5p for 8 seconds peak and 12 seconds off peak inc. VAT.

● Details, page 24.

***** SL

Swiss group holds 23.5% after buying another 18 million shares

How Nestlé won the fight for Rowntree

By Cliff Feltham

Rowntree, the York KitKat and Smarties confectionery group, abandoned its two-month struggle for independence yesterday and accepted a £2.55 billion takeover bid from Nestlé, the Swiss food group.

But last night Nestlé's rival in the tug-of-war, Jacobs Suchard, had still not decided whether to pull out of the fight. Suchard owns nearly 30 per cent of Rowntree and said it was considering its position.

Few City experts, however, seriously expect Suchard to match Nestlé's knock-out cash offer of 1.075p a share. This compares with Suchard's own bid of 950p and Nestlé's opening shot of 890p.

Rowntree shares soared 37p to 1.076p on the news. Nestlé followed its offer by moving swiftly into the stock market, and by the end of the day had picked up about 18 million shares, taking its stake to 23.5 per cent. This meant that control of Rowntree had passed from Britain to Switzerland.

The end to the battle sent Cadbury Schweppes shares sharply higher as speculation heightened that it could become the next takeover target. One theory is that Suchard, which stands to make £200 million profit from its shares in Rowntree, will now bid for Cadbury Schweppes.

The decision by the Rowntree board to back Nestlé follows intense behind-the-scenes discussions with both Swiss companies at secret meetings here and abroad.

York faces 'new beginning'

By Our City Staff

York greeted the decision with sadness, a resigned inevitability and some concern for the future.

Mr Tony Blackburn, aged 22, a bricklayer at the factory, said that his shares had increased by £4,000 in the last three months.

"I have made an absolute killing and would be foolish not to sell," he said.

However, Mrs Jacqueline Letsby, a packer, said: "The Government has sold us out. They should have stopped this and now our future is insecure."

Mrs Linda Swinburn, a Black Magic production line worker whose 200 shares in

the company have more than doubled in value over the past three months, said she would not be selling. "I would much rather have a secure job, but all that seems to be in the balance now," she said.

Mr Tony Brown, a payroll clerk and a Rowntree employee for 22 years, said: "The company should have stayed British, but as long as the company is employing people, my job seems safe."

Mrs Elizabeth Close, a canteen worker at the York factory for 16 years, said: "I think everyone has accepted the news. Certainly I am not particularly sad. Some people are very worried about their jobs though."

Mr Gary Walker, 27, who

Nestlé will now operate through two companies in Britain - Nestlé Co Ltd, with its head office in Croydon, and Rowntree UK in York. Each operation will report separately to Nestlé's base at Vevey.

The increased offer represents an exit price earnings multiple of 26.3 times Rowntree's earnings for last year and 22.9 times forecast earnings for 1988.

Mr Michael Landymore, food analyst at Henderson Croshawite, the broker, said: "Rowntree had a rarity value and Nestlé had to pay the price to get the company. It is a lot of money but they seem pretty happy about paying it."

Before the battle began Rowntree shares were standing at 480p.

In addition to the cash offer Rowntree shareholders will be entitled to retain the 10.5p final dividend which will be paid on July 1.

Suchard launched the "bar wars" after secretly buying shares at around 450p and then topped this up to 15 per cent through a dawn raid at 630p. This prompted Nestlé's bid at 890p. Suchard then launched a full bid at 950p.

Last night Cadbury refused to comment on the speculation in its shares after they jumped 17p before closing 13p higher at 426p. But the confectionery and soft drinks company is fearful that General Cinema, the US group which owns 18 per cent of the business, could soon launch a hostile takeover bid.

works on Kit Kat production, said: "Everyone is really confused and no-one really knows what will happen next. If Nestlé guarantees jobs to people, there will not be too much upset, particularly among the younger people, but a lot of older people are really upset today."

"I don't care who the owner is as long as I have got a job at the end of it all."

Mr Reg Pulleyn, the Lord Mayor, said that without an independent Rowntree and its international headquarters in the city, York would never be quite the same again.

However, Mr Pulleyn said: "We have now got to look to the future. We have to try and treat it as a new beginning."

MMC report on Post Office Counters

Shorter queues commended

By Collia Narborough

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission yesterday published a report on the Post Office's counter services which commended efforts to cut queuing time, but identified scope for yearly savings of £10 million from improved productivity.

Mr John Roberts, managing director of Post Office Counters, the company set up to run counter services within the corporation, welcomed the recommendations as being in line with the company's thinking, albeit with different priorities.

Mr Francis Maude, the

Corporate Affairs Minister, in a Commons written answer, said the commission noted that in the short time since Counters was established it had found many ways of reducing operating costs of the 1,500 post offices directly managed by the Post Office and 20,000 sub-post offices.

These include halving the number of directly managed post offices by closing some, turning others into sub-post offices or franchises, shutting some urban sub-post offices, and introducing Community offices in rural areas.

On the question of quality of service, Counters was found to have improved. Particu-

larly welcome were the installation of stamp vending machines and the sale of stamps through retailers.

The report voiced serious doubts, however, about the financial justification of two automation projects which Counters is developing.

The report said there were some "outdated and inefficient" working practices and clerical procedures and proposed a detailed study of organization and methods.

Standard duties at post offices were in general found to represent less than a full workload for the period of time, particularly where clerical duties were concerned.

Rival's share scheme makes sales plunge

Macarthy tastes bitter UniChem pill

By Michael Tate

Macarthy, one of Britain's big three drug distributors, is to close a big part of its wholesale business following the success of the rival UniChem group's controversial share discount scheme. Macarthy's half-year profits have been hit by a plunge in sales as many customers have deserted to UniChem, and its pharmaceutical wholesale operations are likely to make a loss in the full year.

Six pharmaceutical branches will be closed this year, involving the loss of some 650 jobs, and the group will concentrate its pharmaceutical wholesaling activities in its strongest areas, the North and Scotland, and the South.

Announcing the closures and the group's decision to abandon its plans for a full national coverage yesterday, Mr Nicholas Ward, chairman, said both Mr Francis Maude, the Corporate Affairs Minister, and Sir Patrick Mayhew, the

Attorney-General, had "lost a significant opportunity" to address the anomalies posed by co-operative societies.

Macarthy, attempting to re-establish its position in the drug distribution market, has probably suffered more than most from the UniChem decision to reward new customers with discounted shares in the business prior to its planned stock market flotation in 1990. All attempts by Macarthy and Vestre, the biggest player in the market, which is part of A.H.I. to have the scheme outlawed have failed, although the Office of Fair Trading is still investigating the scheme, and Macarthy has filed legal proceedings alleging a breach of the Treaty of Rome.

Mr Ward said the group had been hit directly, in terms of lost sales, and indirectly, through the loss of management time, by "an anachronistic device".

Macarthy reported pre-tax profits of £3.87 million for the six months to April

2, against £2.62 million previously, but in view of the string of acquisitions contributing for the first time, the market had looked for more. Earnings per share fell from 11p to 9.8p, and analysts have revised downwards their profit forecasts for the year, from £10 million to £7.2 million.

The cost of the closures and redundancies will be treated as an extraordinary item in the year-end figures, but Mr Ward could not say how large a provision would be needed. Macarthy's future success now seems to hinge on its retail division, which includes the Savory & Moore and R Gordon Drummond pharmacy chains, and the LifeStyle health food business, which contributed trading profits of £2.24 million against £582,000 last time.

The interim dividend is repeated at 4.5p a share.

Temper, page 24



Bitter-sweet: Kenneth Dixon (left) of Rowntree and Helmut Maucher of Nestlé yesterday (Photograph: Mark Pepper)

£70,000 a year for Jefferson

By Vivien Goldsmith Family Mooney Editor

Sir George Jefferson, the former British Telecom chairman, will receive an annual income of about £70,000 from the controversial £900,000 retirement package arranged for him by the telephone utility, it emerged yesterday.

This would be slightly less than two thirds of his final salary as BT chairman.

But Mr Colin Steward of the National Association of Pension Funds said it was normal for executives to maximize their pensions. "This sort of thing is done all the time."

A spokesman for the Institute of Directors said: "He would expect to retire on something approaching two-thirds salary."

City pension advisers also rallied around Sir George. One argued: "Successful top executives will retire on the maximum they are allowed - if they have done a good job then that's a very reasonable thing to do."

Normally Inland Revenue rules limit the amount of pension anyone can take to two thirds of final earnings, although rules for pension schemes differ.

Sir George earned a peak of £172,000 in 1985-86 when he was both chairman and chief executive. In later years he was chairman but not chief executive. His final salary was £135,000 a year.

The payment of £866,088 for an annuity for a 67-year-old man could produce a constant income of as much as £120,000 a year from a leading insurance company, such as Equitable Life. If the income ceased on his death, or an income of £104,000 a year if a widow's pension of two thirds the former income was also provided. But starting payments drop sharply if the pension is index-linked.

BT has been at pains to point out that the £900,000 package was not a "golden handshake" but the funding of his entitlement to a pension after nearly 40 years' service with BT, the Post Office and British Aerospace. It was paid to an insurance company to provide income for the rest of his life.

BAA agrees \$91m Ramada hotel deal

By David Young

BAA, the former British Airports Authority, has moved swiftly into the international hotels business with a \$91 million (£51 million) deal.

It has reached agreement with Ramada of Arizona to take an 80 per cent stake in a new venture which will control Ramada's international division.

The deal will be finalized this autumn and will give BAA a majority stake in the existing Ramada Renaissance operation worldwide and in the Ramada Hotel and Ramada Inn operations outside America.

At present, 100 hotels operate under the brand names, either owned by others, leased, managed or franchised by Ramada. There is a chain of 12 Ramada Renaissance hotels in the US.

In Britain, there are Ramada Renaissance hotels in Brighton and Manchester, Ramada hotels in Reading and London and a Ramada Inn in London.

The Ramada chain also has one of the world's largest computerized reservation sys-

tems to which the new venture will have access.

Mr Jeremy Marshall, the BAA chief executive, said: "We are delighted with the opportunity this offers BAA as it meets our declared policy of expanding into the international hotel market and at the same time developing our airport sites."

"Ramada is a fine company with which to be associated, having well focused brands that have worldwide recognition backed by probably the most efficient computerized booking system in the hotel industry. This will be of continuing benefit not only to the existing hotels but also to future developments, including BAA's proposed airport hotels."

Mr Richard Snell, chief executive of Ramada, said: "We believe that the relationship will have substantial benefit for the shareholders of both our companies. This understanding concludes well over a year of Ramada's searching for the optimum partner to build these operations into outstanding performers."

Dollar's climb continues

By Rodney Lord Economics Editor

The dollar continued to strengthen on foreign exchange markets, closing 0.9 pennings higher against the mark in Europe at DM1.7850.

Dealers were encouraged by a senior Japanese official saying he was not worried about the dollar's rise, and by a similar attitude from the German finance minister, Herr Gerhard Stoltenberg.

Mr Richard Jeffrey of Hoare Govett said: "There is a lot of cash around the world looking for a home and some of it is flowing back into the dollar."

A downward revision to US GNP in the first quarter helped quell fears of overheating. Annualized growth is now estimated at 3.6 per cent.

Sterling eased in spite of the base rate increase earlier this week as dealers awaited the May trade figures on Monday. The currency was down 1.35 cents against the dollar at \$1.7575 and 0.9 pennings against the mark at DM3.1371 with the effective exchange rate 0.4 lower at 76.1.

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Rentokil makes £2m move into new field

Rentokil, the pest control company, is paying up to £2 million for Shire Computers and Services and its subsidiaries, Copiers Midlands and Shire Copiers, in a move which takes the company into office equipment supply and maintenance. The group is paying £300,000 up front for Shire, with additional payments over two years based on profits. Mr Clive Thompson, chief executive of Rentokil, said: "This acquisition is part of a move into the whole area of maintenance of office machinery such as facsimile machines, photocopiers, microcomputers and word processors."

Black box firm ahead

Penny & Giles International, which makes electronic instruments including "black box" flight recorders, raised pre-tax profits by 16 per cent to £2.07 million in the year to the end of March. The company said it looked forward to another year of solid growth. A final dividend of 2.12p increases the total payment by 0.5p to 3p.

Glynwed in £4m buy

Glynwed International, the engineering group, has purchased Kohlangaz Fire Company, which makes fuel effect gas fires, for an initial £4 million. Included in the deal is Essilame, the gas fire component maker which sells mainly to Kohlangaz. A further payment of £1.1 million maximum, depending on profits, is payable in 1990.

Fyffes surges to £5.4m

FIT-Fyffes, the Irish fruit and vegetable merchant which last month agreed to sell its 20 per cent stake in Irish Distillers, the whiskey producer, yesterday announced pre-tax profits up by 66 per cent to £16.35 million (£5.44 million) for the half year to end-April.

This figure will be dwarfed by the estimated £10 million the company will net from the sale of its stake in Irish Distillers, announcement of which led to a £167 million hostile bid for the distillery from GC&C Brands, a takeover vehicle jointly owned by Grand Metropolitan and Allied-Lyons. FIT received dividends from the whiskey company of £192,000, inclusive of tax credit, in the first half. FIT's half-year dividend is raised to 10.36p, from 10.33p.

Yule Catto purchase

Yule Catto, the specialty chemicals group, is paying 18 million guineas (£5.1 million) for Kimmenside, a Dutch company which treats flat roofs with a sprayed proprietary waterproofing system. There will be further payments, to a maximum of 4.5 million guineas, during the next two years, depending on future profits.

£2.4m deal for Stanco

Stanco Exhibition Group, which came to the United Securities Market last June, has made its third acquisition since then with the purchase of Artideals Organization, an exhibition construction group, for £2.4 million. The group is paying £150,000 on completion and is issuing 4.65 million new shares.

De Savary wins docks

Mr Peter de Savary, the businessman, has beaten competition from a consortium of five local companies to buy Boston Docks, Lincolnshire. His company, Highland Participants, bid £3.25 million for the municipally-owned operation and the deal was approved by councillors last night.

The local authority will retain a 7.5 per cent stake and is guaranteed a place on the board. It will be able to pay off all the debts of the dock undertaking and still have a £2 million surplus. The authority decided last year to sell the docks after 104 years of municipal ownership because government spending restrictions meant they are unable to finance any redevelopment. In the last financial year the docks made a loss of £293,000, mainly because of a poor grain harvest.

Dowding expansion

Dowding & Mills, the electrical and mechanical engineer, is buying two electric motor repair operations in Luxembourg and West Germany for £3.4 million in new shares. The acquisitions, from Fellen & Gulleume Energietechnik of West Germany, add to D&M's European subsidiary, the Dutch business Geha Holding.

Forestry lifts profit by 95%

Pretax profits at the Economic Forestry Group jumped by 95 per cent to £1.37 million in the 27 weeks to April 3 – against a 26-week period last time – mainly due to the mild winter, which produced exceptionally good planting conditions. The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.25p net.

Harris keeps options open as takeover talk heightens

By Colin Narborough

Sir Philip Harris, founder-chairman of the Harris Queensway furniture and carpet empire, charmed shareholders at the annual meeting yesterday with renewed enthusiasm and higher sales against a backdrop of quickening takeover and buyout talks.

Contrary to expectations, the shareholders' meeting in Orpington, Kent, was a rather docile affair. Only an investor dressed in bush jacket and sandals showed serious dissatisfaction, largely with the company's handling of the Hamleys toy business.

Probably encouraged by an otherwise supportive audience of about 40 shareholders and by the impressive security, Sir Philip appeared to overcome his concern about the poor results announced on May 5, and largely ignored the issue of who is going to control the company next month.

Before proceedings opened at the Harris Queensway headquarters, Mr James Gulliver, the outgoing chairman of Argyll and a veteran bid battler, named Mr Eddie Dayan, a deputy director at the electrical retailer Dixons, as "managing director designate" of Harris Queensway.

Mr Dayan will take up the job only if the consortium led by Mr Gulliver successfully concludes its talks on a possible offer for Harris Queensway.

Discussions are, however, proceeding "positively" and the consortium is optimistic that it will secure the board's



Renewed enthusiasm: Sir Philip Harris yesterday

renewed enthusiasm: Sir Philip Harris yesterday was looking at a possible management buyout.

He made clear to *The Times* later that he would put even money on a third option – Harris Queensway continuing as it was.

Underlining the strong support he was receiving from shareholders, he noted that the 66 per cent tumble in pretax profits in the year to January 31 was his company's "only bad year in 30 years."

He is looking for a better performance this year.

Sir Philip told the meeting that total sales were higher so far on a like-for-like basis, but he could not make a full-year forecast as the key Christmas and January sales only came in the second half. The cost base in certain areas was unacceptably high, but action was being taken to reduce it.

"I am very pleased with the renewed feeling of enthusiasm throughout the group," he said.

He conceded that last year's problems arose mainly from the furniture division and Hamleys.

"Our furniture business is being restructured. We are eliminating unprofitable stores, reducing our distribution expenses and cutting back our overheads."

Hamleys was being cut back to the flagship store in Regent Street, as it had continued to trade profitably. "We have recognized that the expansion we embarked upon was ill-conceived," he confessed.

But the salesman in Sir Philip could not see his company being badly affected by the new laws requiring fire-retardant foam in furniture. There was a sales benefit to be had. "You can say that an old suite is dangerous, buy a new one," he said.

SE fixes November start for automated share-deals system

By Joe Joseph

The London stock market's plan to introduce its first automated share-dealing system on November 28 will strengthen London's position in an increasingly technologically guided world securities market, Sir Nicholas Goodison, the Stock Exchange chairman, said yesterday.

He said SAEF – SEAF Automatic Execution Facility – was important for two reasons.

"First, politically it confirms the technological commitment of the Stock Exchange. Secondly, SAEF underlines how the world is developing from a quote-driven system to an order-driven system."

SAEF, which will be linked to the exchange's checking and computerized settlements system, Talsman, will initially cover bargains of up to 1,000 shares. It aims to simplify the execution of small trades for private clients by cutting out the need for telephone contact between dealing parties. Almost half of all trades are for fewer than 1,000 shares.

Using SAEF a broker can tap a buy or sell order for his client into a computer terminal. SAEF will then check which of the market-making firms is offering the best price, select one and carry out the deal automatically.

The Stock Exchange says the system can cope with 50,000 transactions a day and should be at least three times as fast, and may be as much as 10 times as fast, as telephone



Goodison: commitment

dealing. Transaction costs should also be cheaper. But it is uncertain whether the new system will swell the number of private clients drawn to the stock market or whether brokers will pass on savings to investors.

Sir Nicholas said he hoped SAEF would lead to an increase in private client business, but added: "It helps practitioners who are looking after private clients to stabilize their costs, which is a very important point."

Mr George Hayter, executive director of services at the exchange, said: "This is episode two of Big Bang. It is something, in an ideal world, we would have liked to introduce at the same time as SEAF. We have every confidence it will be just as successful as SEAF."

"It is going to help the telephone congestion problem that can arise when the market is very busy and market makers are very busy."

£516,000 for BWD

BWD Securities, the Yorkshire stockbroker floated on the Unlisted Securities Market in April, made pre-tax profits of £516,000 in the six months to May 31.

This compares with £1.29 million for the whole of the year to November 30, 1987. (An article in *The Times* yesterday suggested the comparison was between two six-month periods).

Mr Christopher Broadbent, BWD's managing director, said: "We are in a unique position. Most stockbrokers are losing money. After flotation our profits increased dramatically and we drew a lot of very wealthy clients."

Commissions and fee income for the latest half-year stood at £1.4 million and earnings per share at 4.4p.

Electron House in £8.35m takeover

By Martin Waller

Electron House, the components and computer peripherals distributor, is buying HB Electronics from Rockwood, the distribution and security services group, for £8.35 million – its ninth purchase since joining the USM in August 1985.

Electron, which plans a full listing in September, is also forecasting pre-tax profits for the year to end-April of at least £2.65 million, against just £950,000 last time, and a final dividend of 2.5p, making a total 4.5p, against 3.6p.

HB is the main trading asset of the former HB Electronic Components, the USM-quoted shell acquired by Mr Tom Forrest and Mr Brian O'Connor in 1986, which subsequently became Rockwood.

Mr Robert Leigh, the Electron chairman, said that under their ownership HB had seen earnings quadruple to about £800,000 a year, with profits before interest and tax for the five months to end-May warranted at a minimum £313,000.

The acquisition is being funded by the issue of 6.12 million new Electron shares which will be offered to existing shareholders at 140p each.

With cash of at least £1.4 million held by HB, the deal is in part a disguised rights issue and will reduce gearing from 100 to just over 40 per cent.

It will also give the enlarged group a better balance of sales, bringing with it franchises in the more stable area of passive electronic components to add to Electron's existing and more volatile semi-conductor business, said Mr Leigh.

Stead leap forecast

Stead & Simpson, the shoe retailing chain fighting a bid from Claydon Properties, bolstered its defences with a property revaluation and profit forecast yesterday.

The group calculates that its properties are worth £118.8 million, £29.3 million more than Claydon's bid of £89.5 million.

Stead & Simpson's directors also forecast a 20 per cent jump in pre-tax profits for the current year to March 1989 to £10.7 million.

The directors promise shareholders a dividend of not less than 5.6p for the current year, a 22 per cent jump on last year.

Rothmans International has so much money that yesterday it was beginning to look like one of Eartha Kitt's old-fashioned millionaires.

The tobacco group disclosed net funds of £442.4 million – up by £114.1 million from the previous balance sheet date – but emphasized: "We now face the challenge of reinvestment." Add in balances of associated companies and Rothmans could boast a £500 million cash pile, which is why it was quick to point out that this did not mean the £442 million was sitting in a tin box in London.

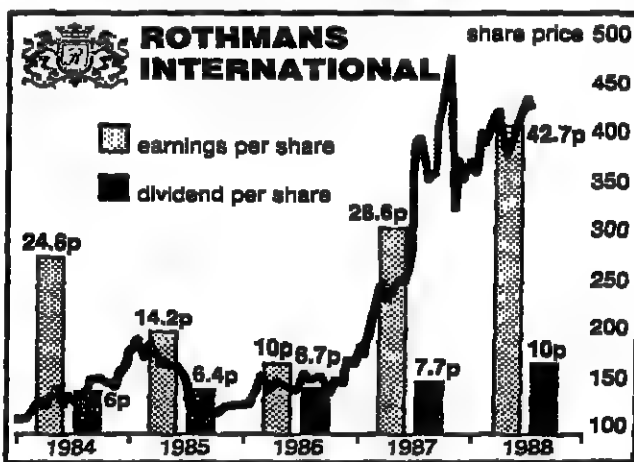
On the grounds that it can make more money out of tobacco than cash, the obvious home would appear to be more tobacco investments. But then on an international front the group could run into anti-trust/monopoly problems, and in any case would dearly like to have another, separate, profits string to its bow.

His struggle is to find a responsible, and profitable, home in which to invest and this may take some time, although until it does such balances will provide a handsome stream of investment income.

Rothmans also disclosed pretax profits 48 per cent higher at £288.8 million, an increase in fully diluted earnings from 28.6p to 42.7p a share, and what superficially looks like a mean dividend increase – up from 7.7p to 10p a share.

Thanks to the benefits of rationalization and reorganization, Rothmans is now looking steadier on its feet. Such costs are down from £15 million to £9.6 million, and from here on are likely to be in the housekeeping class.

Because its core business



remains a very profitable operation, tobacco profits rose from £205.9 million to £276 million, accounting for 76 per cent (69 per cent) of operating profit before interest.

Luxury consumer products through its Dunhill connection brought in £89.3 million against £68.8 million.

The profits were not as high as had been hoped and the shares closed lower on the day at 446p where the prospective rating is nine. BAT, on a prospective rating of seven, still has the advantage. There is a wild card in the Rembrandt holding – it has 33 per cent of the equity and 43 per cent of the votes – but with fancy cash balances Rothmans shares are a hold, even for non-smokers.

Greycoat

There is still some post-crash nervousness in the property sector, but it is hardly evident at Greycoat Group. The group's strategy of retaining 100 per cent of any property development in which it is involved could be regarded as high risk in that, inevitably, it means exposure to many fewer projects.

TEMPUS

Rothmans puffing its way to the bank

Building Society could result in a valuation surplus approaching £11 million, or 13p a share.

But it is in 1990 and 1991 that the important projects are due on stream. Most prestigious is Lutyens House in the City's Finsbury Circus, where Greycoat can now hope for £50 a square foot – giving a potential valuation surplus of 100p a share from this project alone.

Mr David Tunstall, a property analyst at BZW, estimates an asset value of at least 480p a share by this year-end compared with the share price of 430p.

But by 1990-91, analysts will be disappointed if the net asset value has not at least doubled from its present 404p a share to well above 800p. Investors prepared to take a longer term view should buy on any post-results weakness.

Macarthy

Knowing when to quit is as important as knowing how to win. Faced with tactics that it continues to insist are unfair from UniChem, one of its two big rivals in the wholesale pharmaceutical industry, Macarthy has swallowed its medicine and amputated a substantial chunk of its pharmaceutical distribution business.

Six depots, 650 employees and, maybe, £2 million or £3 million of write-offs will be the ultimate cost to Macarthy of the UniChem share discount scheme; it is hard not to feel some sympathy for a company that in the early 1970s was Britain's chemists' biggest supplier and whose new-ish management team's strategy to restore some of the

former glory might have worked had UniChem been forced to play by the same rules.

But the unfair competition buck was passed by the DTI, the Attorney-General and the Registrar of Friendly Societies and Macarthy, pharmaceutical profits evaporating fast, could not afford to wait for the fustian deliberations of the OFT and the European courts.

Retrenchment will set Macarthy's growth strategy back by at least a year and the fact that the company is not prepared at this stage to quantify either the damage to turnover and profits of the UniChem action, or the cost of the remedy, provokes speculation that the group's other manufacturing and distribution operations have done less well than they might.

Certainly, the increase in half-time profits from £2.6 million to £3.9 million is disappointing, bearing in mind the string of acquisitions since last year, about which again the board is curiously reticent. Full-year projections have been slashed from about £10 million to between £7 million and £7.5 million, ignoring the extraordinary write-offs.

The question that remains is whether Macarthy's Plan B, involving the rationalization, or indeed sale of the non-retail interests, and concentration on the successful retail side can be effectively adopted before a bidder pops up.

Unfortunately, it would probably take a bid to lift the shares much above their present 215p, when they sell for less than 12 times this year's likely earnings, in the next 12 months.

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BAYER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT PAYMENT OF DIVIDEND

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to shareholders that following a Resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting of shareholders held on 22nd June, 1988 a Dividend for the year 1987 of DM.10.00 and an additional anniversary bonus of DM.1.00 per share of DM.50 nominal will be paid as from 23rd June, 1988 against delivery of Coupon No. 47.

All dividends will be subject to deduction of German Capital Yields Tax of 25%.

The net amount of dividend is payable in German Marks. Paying Agents outside Germany will pay in the currency of the country in which the Coupon is presented at the rate of exchange on the day of presentation.

Coupon No. 47 may be presented as from 23rd June, 1988 at the Company's Paying Agents in the United Kingdom:—

Hermes Bank Limited
Hill Samuel & Co. Limited
Kleinwort, Benson Limited
S.G. Warburg & Co. Ltd.

from whom claim forms may be obtained.

United Kingdom Income Tax will be deducted at the rate of 10% (10 Pence in the £1) unless claims are accompanied by an affidavit.

German Capital Yields Tax deducted in excess of 15% is recoverable by United Kingdom residents. The Company's United Kingdom Paying Agents will, upon request, provide the appropriate form for such recovery.

LEVY/USMAN 22nd June, 1988 BAYER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

Unilever PLC



Notice is hereby given of the appointment of Barclays Bank PLC as Registrar. Correspondence regarding the share register and documents for registration should in future be sent to the address below.

S G Williams
Company Secretary

Barclays Bank PLC
Registration and New Issues
Octagon House, PO Box No 34, Gadbrook Park, Northwich
Cheshire CW9 7RD.
Telephone: 0606 40440.



Pro help

Gre

Acquisit improve

Kuwa

By David Jones

Energy Correspondent

The Kuwaiti oil industry is

facing a number of problems

which could lead to a

significant reduction in

production in the near

future. The main problem

is the ageing of the

oil fields, which are

producing at a much

lower rate than in the

past. This is due to the

natural decline of the

oil fields, which are

producing at a much

lower rate than in the

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Production boost at ERF helps lift profits to £5.6m

By Martin Waller

ERF Holdings, Britain's leading remaining independent heavy truck manufacturer, achieved a sharp rise in the year to April 2, with pretax profits of £5.61 million compared with just £718,000 last time.

The company returned to the dividend list at the half-year stage. A final payment of 7p makes a total of 9p for the year.

Mr John Hobbs, the finance director, said production had risen by 50 per cent over the past year. ERF began producing 18 trucks a day at its

factory at Sandbach, Cheshire, this week.

In the dark days after the 1980 crash in the truck market it had been turning out just 16 trucks a week, with pretax losses in the year to end-March 1981 reaching £4.22 million before an extraordinary write-off of £600,000.

The sharp rise was the result of growing demand as the British economy took off, as well as improvements in marketing and in the company's products, said Mr Hobbs.

It plans to launch two new vehicle ranges at the Motor Show in October.

Sales for the year rose to £121.92 million, from £75.91 million.

The chairman, Mr Peter Foden, said that assuming the economy continued its present growth, commercial vehicle sales should remain strong and ERF could hope to see a further improvement in its market share.

Business had continued buoyant into the first quarter of the current year, Mr Foden added.

ERF claims a 14 per cent share of the British market for power units for articulated vehicles, up from 10.2 per cent

a year ago and comfortably beating its previous 12.5 per cent target.

It still had some way to go before it reached full capacity at Sandbach, after recent reorganization there, the company said.

Export business showed some improvement, with 10 to 12 per cent of production going overseas, three quarters of this to its South African subsidiary, which made a "significant contribution" to profits. But business in the Middle East and Africa remained unpredictable because of political problems.

Reject Shop valued at £14m

By Alexandra Jackson

The Reject Shop will be valued at £14 million when it comes to the Unlisted Securities Market on June 30. A million new shares, representing 10 per cent of the enlarged equity, are being placed at 140p each, raising £1.2 million net of expenses.

The money will support the group's expansion plans. It has a strong balance sheet, with net cash at the last year-end, but there are plans to step up the store-opening programme.

The Reject Shop is a well-known name on Britain's high streets, despite having only 13 outlets. It has improved its profit margins in the past two years, after refocusing trading strategy in 1984.

Pre-tax profits were £1.1 million for the year to March 20, on sales of £13 million. This compares with pre-tax profits of £460,000 on sales of £9.8 million last time. In 1983-84, pre-tax profit was £141,000 on turnover of £6.5 million.

A dividend of 3.15p is forecast for 1988-89 which would put the shares on a yield of 3 per cent.

For the pricing place, the shares are valued at 18.3 times historic earnings. This is high for the retail sector, where the average is about 13 times, but not exceptional.

This past year sales advanced by 32 per cent and Mr Anthony Hawser, joint managing director with Ms Anna Vinton, said they had continued to increase in the first quarter of this year.

Mr Hawser and Ms Anna Vinton, who co-founded the company in 1972, will hold 83.3 per cent of the enlarged equity. They have given an undertaking not to sell any of their shares for at least a year.

Furniture accounted for 40 per cent of last year's sales, with giftware and home accessories taking 36 per cent and 24 per cent. The group is opening two new stores - in London's Bayswater in mid 1989 and at Hatfield, Herts, in early 1990.

Mr Hawser said he hoped the quotation would increase the company's ability to increase its outlets. "There is potential for at least 50 more Reject Shops," he said.

The Reject Shop's products are no longer "seconds" - the concept on which the company was founded. However, the buying power of the growing company enables it to provide a broad range of goods at competitive prices.

Rowntree strikes deal with a hard centre

Rowntree bowed to the inevitable but has extricated itself with some skill. Its shareholders have good cause for a toast to the company and its advisers for their conduct of the two-way auction between Nestlé and Jacobs Suchard. No one could claim the board sold its birthright cheaply.

But the other side of that coin is the unseemly rush by fund managers to bale out at 630p in the original Nestlé dawn raid. Apart from the red faces to be witnessed in the next few months as pension fund trustees roast their fund managers for rash and hasty actions, the old issue of the City's short-termism is bound to be raised.

With the approach of 1992, it was clear once Nestlé made its first move that Rowntree was one of a number of companies which has a value far beyond the short sighted valuation of its immediate profits. It has the all important brand strength which it has managed with professionalism and skill. For convenience, analysts regard such items as so-called intangible assets. But in a break-up or change of control, they become all too tangible as the high price paid by Nestlé demonstrates.

Rowntree was also the classic strategic 1992 stock, holding a substantial market share in a key member of the EEC and promising significant benefits of scale to any large predator like Nestlé, in a similar line of business.

The rush for the exits when Nestlé placed 630p a share on the table is an embarrassment to the City and potent ammunition to the enemies of free markets. There can rarely have been such a misjudgement of a major company's intrinsic worth.

In striking such a hard bargain with

Nestlé, the Rowntree management have also vindicated the stance of Lord Young. His refusal to refer the bid to the Monopolies Commission in the face of intense political pressure cannot have been an easy one. But the price paid by Nestlé is hardly the manoeuvring of an asset stripper. The undertaking that York will remain not merely the centre of Rowntree's UK activities but also become the strategic centre for Nestlé's worldwide confectionery business should allay the fears raised by alarmists and Little Englanders alike.

Unfinished business includes the future plans of Suchard, now expected to accept the Nestlé terms and the comforting £200 million share dealing profit which goes with it. Suchard has been accused of a spoiling operation designed to frustrate the ambitious plans of its rival. But Suchard ran a sliderule over both of the leading UK confectioners, Cadbury and Rowntree, and concluded that Rowntree was by far the more attractive.

Suchard may now decide to go for second best and apply its windfall profit to a bid for Cadbury. This looks an all too credible prospect, for the Swiss group has a ready made proposal to lay before the board of the US group General Cinema, currently holding a blocking 18 per cent stake in Cadbury. General Cinema's long-term intentions to Cadbury have been kept deliberately obscure. But the US group's market operations have looked opportunistic rather than strategic. As the GrandMet sale confirmed yesterday, soft drinks bottling is highly valued. A Suchard offer to sell the Cadbury bottling operations to General Cinema following a successful bid could well find favour in the US group's boardroom.

Sterling slips from spotlight

First reactions in foreign exchange markets to the latest base rate increase must give the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, some satisfaction. The buoyancy in the dollar has effectively diverted attention from sterling which yesterday fell against the mark as well as the US currency. For the time being the authorities seem to have achieved the combination of higher interest rates without super-charging the pound which the Bank of England indicated last month was desirable.

This happy state of affairs may not outlast any new disillusionment with the dollar. For the moment the US trade deficit, though still huge, appears to be moving in the right direction, and it is the direction rather than the speed of change which is most important to markets.

But the best that dollar holders seem likely to be able to look forward to is stability rather than appreciation. The enormous holdings of dollar reserves in the Bundesbank and the Bank of Japan hang like a Sword of Damocles over the

market. No wonder the West German finance minister, Gerhard Stoltenberg, said that the dollar's rise was not a cause for concern. German exports are booming and the Bundesbank would clearly like to reduce its exposure to dollars. Yesterday the Bank of Japan said much the same.

The economic summit meeting in Toronto helped to underpin the dollar, like the House of Peers, by doing nothing in particular, and doing it very well. There were no decisions, no rows and nothing to upset the markets. It was a stylish performance. And given broadly satisfactory trade figures during the next few months the markets are probably prepared to give the dollar the benefit of the doubt at least until the presidential election in November.

Once the new president takes office at the beginning of next year, however, further progress in reducing the other deficit, on the budget, will be essential. Without that the present buoyancy in the US currency will ultimately be reversed.

Greycoat leaps 88% to £17m

By Carol Ferguson

Greycoat Group, the property development group, revealed a 34 per cent jump in net asset value to 404p a share, and predicted strong demand for City property over the next two or three years, together with unprecedented supply.

Mr Geoffrey Wilson, chairman, said two reports on City property showed two-thirds of City users were looking to expand in the next two or three years, and that demand would be further fuelled by occupants wanting more efficient buildings. "We are not just replacing 1960s buildings, but many 1980s buildings were built to 1960s specifications, and many have no air-conditioning," he said.

"We have eight central London office developments in progress, of which the largest are Lutens House at 1 Finsbury Circus, EC2, Embankment Place, WC2, and 123 Buckingham Palace Road, SW1, totalling around 1.1 million sq ft of office space."

Its most prestigious development, Lutens House, is due for completion during its financial year to March 1990. The group's pre-tax profits rose 88 per cent to £17.1 million and earnings per share



Building on strong demand: Geoffrey Wilson yesterday (Photograph: James Morgan)

were up 71 per cent to 19.5p. A final dividend of 2p was recommended, making 3.6p net for the year, up 31 per cent.

Mr Wilson said: "Because so many of our investments are our own developments, for the most part technologically

advanced 'state-of-the-art' central London office buildings, our portfolio enjoys, and will doubtless continue to enjoy, a high rate of both rental and capital growth."

Good progress was being made with the five main

schemes in the shopping centres division, while in the US it was making headway with four new office developments in New York and Washington and the group's prospects for this year were good, he said.

Timesup, page 24

Acquisition helps BTP improvement to £9.6m

By Joe Joseph

BTP, the chemicals manufacturer that was formerly known as British Tar Products, lifted pre-tax profits from £5.75 million to £9.66 million in the year to March 31.

The improvement was helped by the acquisition last year of Barrow Hepburn, the chemicals and engineering group.

Earnings per share rose from 7.05p to 10.88p, with turnover climbing from £65.17 million to £107.92 million.

A final dividend of 3.95p

makes a total distribution of 6.2p, compared with 5.5p for the previous year.

Mr Frank Buckley, BTP's chairman, said: "Following the acquisition of Barrow Hepburn in March, 1987, we reviewed certain companies in that group and how their activities meet our long-term strategy."

"As a result we sold the engineering related and trading businesses for some £6 million, which improved the borrowing position to just below £3 million."

Burns-Anderson aims at government agency

By Cliff Feltman

Burns-Anderson Group, the fledgling financial services company where Sir John Harvey-Jones, the former head of ICI, has just completed his first year as chairman, believes it has the financial muscle to bid for Professional and Executive Recruitment, the top-flight employment agency that is being privatized by the Government.

Mr Alan Moore, Burns-Anderson's chief executive, disclosed yesterday that he has asked for details of the sell-off to take a close look at PER's

figures. Some estimates put a figure of £10 million on the business. Mr Moore said he had the financial backing to double the size of Burns-Anderson, currently capitalized at £30 million, should he decide to splash out on any acquisitions.

For the half year just ended, the group reported pre-tax profits up 55 per cent to £1.3 million. Earnings per share rose by 35 per cent to 3.52p, and shareholders benefited from a 17 per cent lift in the interim dividend to 1.75p.

Kuwait replies to critics of BP stake

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

The Kuwaiti Ambassador in London has entered the debate over his country's 22 per cent holding in BP, which is being investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

In an article published in Kuwait yesterday, obviously with the approval of the ruling Al-Sabbah family, Mr Ghazi al-Rees said media hostility in

Britain to the Kuwait shareholding was "a fabricated fuss".

Certain newspapers, he said, were attempting to cloud the atmosphere between Arab countries and Britain by criticizing the Kuwait investment. This was being done because some British newspapers "are paid or owned by certain groups".

Speculation that the Kuwaiti shareholding in BP is to

be reduced, either on the orders of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission or because the Kuwait Investment Office has decided to scale down its holding to nearer 15 per cent, caused BP shares to be among the most heavily traded yesterday.

The partly paid shares, which Kuwait bought at about 70p after the Government share sale at 120p was hit by the stock market slump,

traded yesterday at 66p, with more than 20 million changing hands.

Yesterday in London Mr Francis Maude, the under secretary of state for corporate affairs, launched the new contract terms for Brent crude oil on the London International Petroleum Exchange. The new futures contract allows traders to trade in lots of 1,000 barrels as opposed to the cargoes of 600,000 barrels

Couturier heads for the haute

It is now exactly a year since couture house Norman Hartnell went bust. And during the past year, Manny Silverman, erstwhile chief executive of Moss Bros, who bought Hartnell from the receiver, has been transformed from a gentleman's tailor into a Royal dressmaker. Losses have been stemmed and he is already looking towards a stock market flotation within four years. "We've managed to stop it sinking any further and re-established its credibility as a living business," he tells me. He made his first major appointment last week: Murray Arbed is to design its couture collections, working alongside in-house designer, Frenchman Roger Brinés who will continue to design for clients on a day-to-day basis. The appointment of Arbed has won universal praise from the fashion Press and his first collection will be unveiled on September 14. "All requests for previews have been refused," says Silverman. "We're keeping it veiled in secrecy for maximum impact on the day." Although Silverman has cut the business back to its core, he aims eventually to turn it into a billion-pound, publicly quoted fashion empire. "When the time is right, we will launch Miss Hartnell and Hartnell for Men," he says. "If Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein can create huge empires from scratch in the US, surely we can do it here with a name like Hartnell."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Still getting it right

Sir John Harvey-Jones took shrewd decisions during his colourful tenure as ICI chairman. And his knack of getting it right extended to selling nearly all his 6,000 shares in ICI during the first week of October last year, netting him almost £100,000. The industrialist, who had resigned by then, admits that when the price of ICI got within a whisker of £16 he thought that, despite all his old loyal-

ties, it was time to sell. "I thought £16 was really a pretty good price. Looking back it was more a question of luck than anything else but I've hung on to 500 shares." Sir John says he invested the proceeds elsewhere, and they have increased by 50 per cent. He is now also nursing valuable warrants in his latest venture, financial services group Burns-Anderson, where he is also chairman.

Family affair

Christian Salvesen has undergone considerable changes since becoming a publicly quoted company three years ago. But one thing which has stayed the same is its annual

meeting, which the group still describes as "a big family party". And it is just that. For although it is nearly 150 years since Christian Salvesen, the company's founder, came to Scotland from Norway, Sir Gerald Elliot, the group chairman, is a sixth-generation descendant. The rest of his family are now scattered to the four corners of the globe, but they still hold 50 per cent of the company's shares. And, as usual, a fair number of them are expected to turn up this July for the AGM - recognized as one of the best parties north of the border.

Jolly good

Stores analyst "Jolly" Jenny Nibbs, who walked out of Capel-Cure Myers without a job to go to, has landed the top retailing research post at Prudential. In September she will become the senior stores analyst in its European Research Department.



"I've always wanted my own personal Swiss bank account"

Golden shares

As BP shares continue to "underperform" the market while the Monopolies and Mergers Commission's investigation into the Kuwait Investment Office's 22 per cent holding trundles on, it is ironic that the share price of Britoil has been soaring. The Britoil price rise is, however, technical. It is now wholly owned by BP, but there remains a rump of small shareholders who refused to sell and the price, for the time being, is still being quoted. It seems that some of the larger shareholders in Britoil were so anxious to take the BP offer that they committed more shares to BP at the height of the bid battle than they actually owned. The numbers are minuscule, but it has meant that those investors who decided to hold on to their Britoil shares - claiming that the 50p price offered by BP was too low - are now having the last laugh. As the institutions balance their books and send BP the required number of Britoil share certificates, some are finding themselves short of stock and are having to pick up what shares they can on the dwindling open market.

Overheard among City revellers spending their profits from Nestlé's knockout £2.55 billion bid for Rowntree, "I suppose that the poor devils who will be getting the chop in York won't even be offered a gold watch. They'll probably be receiving a cuckoo clock instead."

Carol Leonard

Strength for further growth

Results for the year ended 31 March 1988

Profit before tax	£55.4 million	Up 31%
Profit attributable	£37.7 million	Up 21%
Earnings per share	35.8p	Up 21%
Dividend	14.5p	Up 11.5%

Charter has achieved consistent growth and met its key financial targets of an increasing return on capital and earnings per share.

Pre-tax profit has increased and cash resources continued to grow to £188.0 million, helped by strong cash flow from operating businesses. The sale of Charter's holding in Malaysia Mining Corporation largely completes one aspect of restructuring the Charter group.

Johnson Matthey's contribution to Charter's pre-tax profits rose to £22.7 million, reflecting Charter's increased shareholding and improved performance.

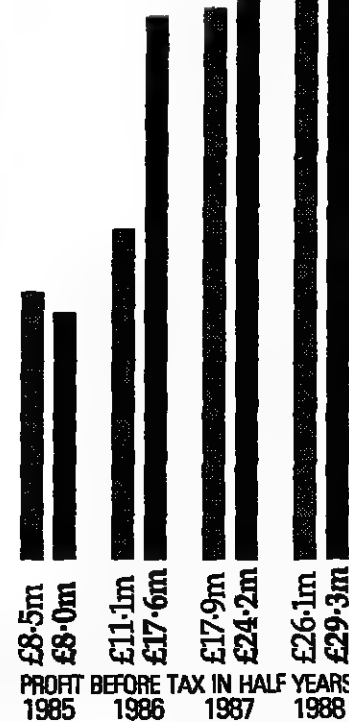
Existing businesses can earn more and the strategy is to grow them through further development and acquisition to enlarge their

product and geographic range. With established reputations for product excellence and technical achievement they have strong positions in their markets and the capability to compete worldwide.

Building products and materials, precious metals and coal mining performed well although profits from the mining equipment and rail track equipment businesses were reduced.

The Charter group is tightly-managed with a strong balance sheet, substantial liquid resources and unused borrowing capacity.

In the current year the operating companies will focus on development programmes, while Charter pursues its strategy of broadening the base of the Group's business.



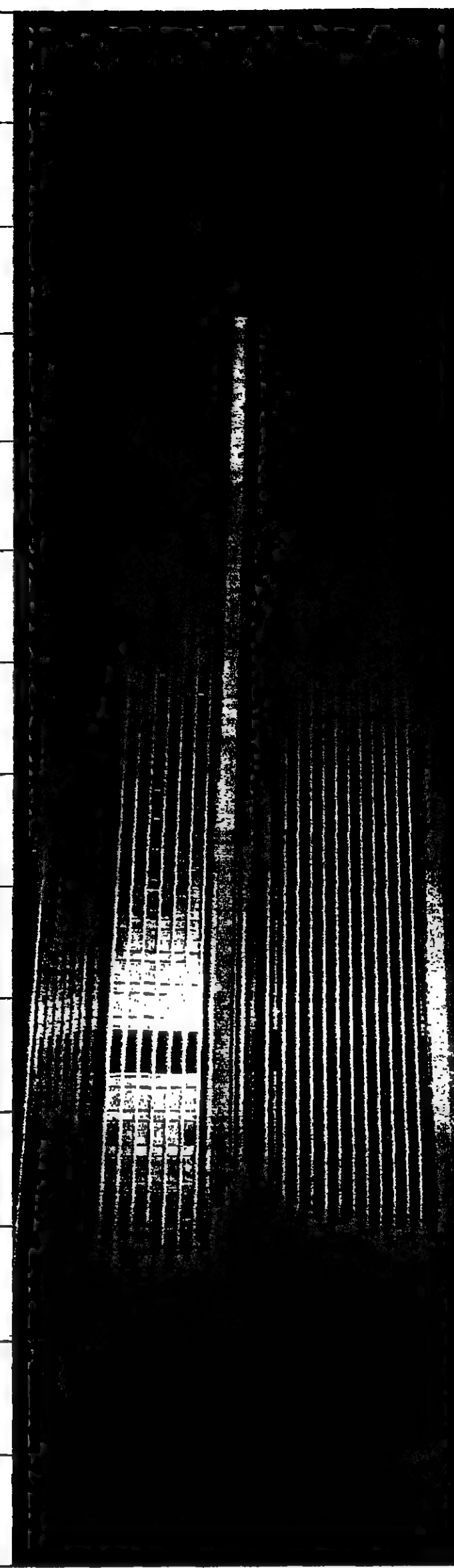
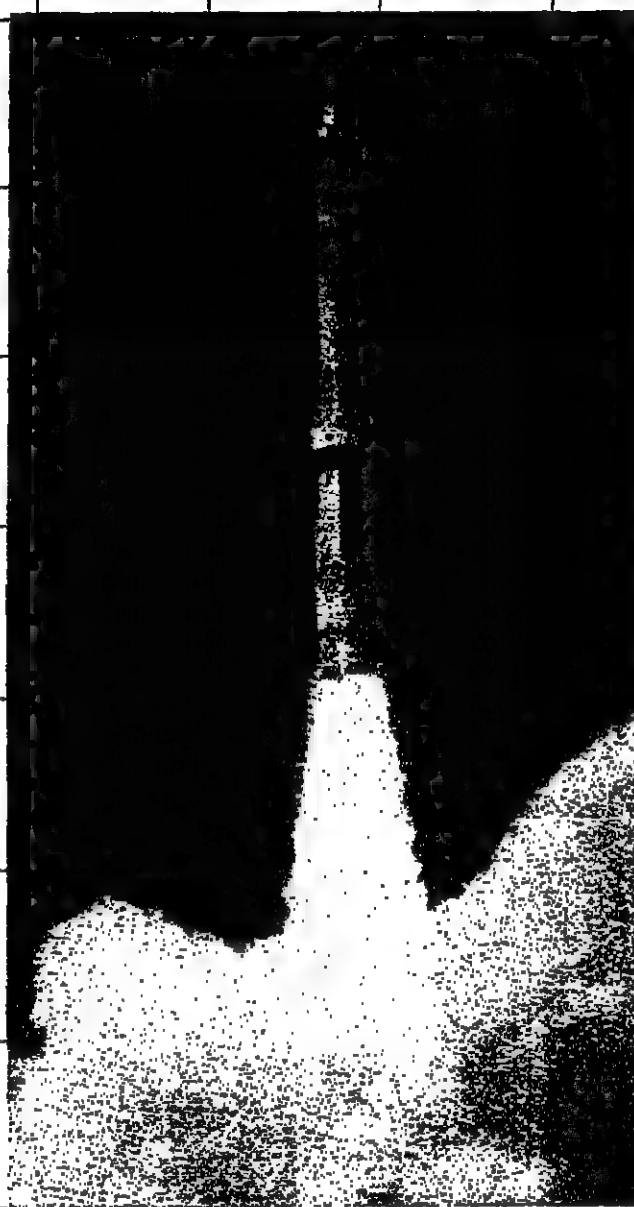
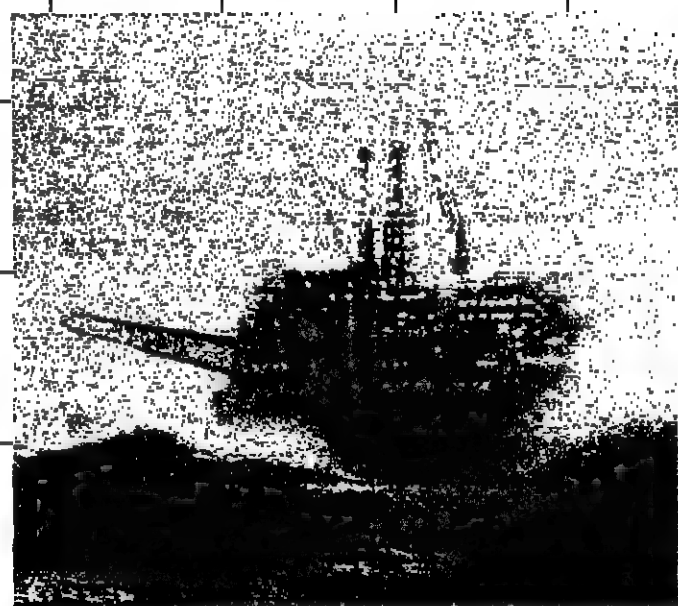
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Copies of the Annual Report are available from the Company Secretary, Charter Consolidated PLC, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ. Financial Results Act 1986: This statement has been approved on behalf of the Company by a member of MRO, since the Company itself does not conduct investment business and accordingly is not subject to regulation under the Act. Information herein on the past is not necessarily a guide to the future.

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Information technology is the world's fastest growing industry.

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And within this industry, Apricot's latest trading results speak for themselves.

Profits have more than doubled to £8.2 million on £85 million turnover — with an £11.5 million cash balance.

And the growth continues with the strategic acquisition of two market-leading DEC systems houses.

This increases our domination of the financial services sector — and adds advanced graphics solutions to our government, defence and industrial markets across Europe.

Within the financial services market, Apricot is the clear market leader in investment management software with 'Quasar'. The top six U.K. banks have committed to this system — with further expansion in the key financial sectors in America and the Far East.

This also broadened from DEC-based systems to encompass IBM mainframes, and Apricot's own high-performance VX1000 and VX9000 parallel processing hardware.

And, within this same market, Apricot has revolutionised the delivery of financial information services with 'Citydesk', using industry-standard micro-processor technology.

To complement these activities, the purchase of Adatco brings the acknowledged leader in systems for the insurance sector.

All of which takes Apricot another step nearer to providing total solutions for the financial services market.

Another area of great strength is Government and Defence, where Apricot is the leading supplier of desktop systems in the U.K.

Whilst the National Health and a large number of local Authorities specify our networks and multi-user systems for key applications.

And overseas, substantial government contracts have been won in Canada and Australia.

The acquisition of the advanced computer graphics

specialists, Sigmex International plc, will extend the penetration into Europe.

Already, existing major users include NATO's War Command Headquarters, the NATO airforces, and many significant industrial and scientific sites.

Underpinning these successes is the traditional role of Apricot as a major supplier of computing systems to the U.K. commercial marketplace.

In the past five years over 150,000 Apricot business systems have been installed.

And each day, Apricot installs more networks than any other company.

To back this all up is the country's largest dedicated field service support organisation.

Equally vital is Apricot's continuing investment in further growth. And this is supported by one of the largest research and development teams in the U.K.

Now Apricot is well on the way to providing a complete range of advanced computing solutions in its chosen markets — with bases in four European countries and over 1,200 employees.

And with these unique skills in systems, solutions and services the way ahead is clear.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

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JAPAN

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

Pictures by Robin Laurance

A cautious country opens the door



Continued economic success has made Japan a real power in the world. Peter Stafford looks at new ways in which it is making itself felt

Japan is now at an extraordinarily interesting point in its historical development. As a result of hard work and ingenuity, and of both industrial and commercial flair, it has emerged as a major world power, at least in the economic field.

It is the largest creditor nation and largest giver of aid, with huge investments overseas and big foreign currency reserves at home.

Significantly, it appears to have triumphantly overcome the obstacle presented to its exports by the recent rise in the value of the yen. Its industry is showing the ability to adjust to changed circumstances, and that means that at a time when the US is in economic decline Japan is going from strength to strength.

This new-found economic status is presenting policy-makers in Tokyo with both problems and opportunities, unimagined in earlier, simpler days when the objective was essentially to recover from the wreckage of the Second World War.

They are having to adjust to the fact that Japan cannot live in isolation — something which it has tended to do for much of its long history — but has to behave as an active and cooperative member of the world community.

Its wealth gives it the opportunity and ability to play



a more active part than it has done since 1945 in pursuing its own perceived interests in the world. But at the same time it has been under considerable pressure from its western partners in recent years both to adjust its trade policies and to assume more of the burdens of supporting their shared interests.

The message has not been lost on Tokyo, and the first conclusions are emerging. It is a slow process, however, and is likely to take time. In spite of their present prosperity, deep down the Japanese still have a feeling that they are a poor people struggling to make ends meet on a string of offshore islands; and if there is a streak of arrogance, there is also a sense of insecurity, perhaps born of such past catastrophes as earthquakes and famine.

Moreover the last time they ventured actively out on to the world stage, in the period between the Meiji Restoration of 1868 and the Second World War, it ended in disaster. So there is a marked reluctance in

Japanese public opinion to embark on anything that will involve a military build-up, or intervention overseas.

In response to probing from Japan's partners, however, certain points have been made clear. Yasuhiro Nakasone, the previous prime minister, declared that Japan regarded itself as part of the West, with the same broad security interests as the countries of North America and western Europe; and that has been repeated by his successor, Noboru Takeshita.

More specifically, Japan has made a marked, and so far successful, move to meet the demands of its trading partners by shifting the emphasis of its economy from being export-led to one that is led by domestic demand. Japan's exports are continuing to rise, but its imports have begun to rise faster, and that has led to a reduction in its trade surplus.

This has the advantage both of meeting western criticism — and officials talk ruefully of sessions of "Japan-bashing" — and of at least beginning to meet the demands of Japan's

Awareness of new role

own population. There is a feeling there that however rich Japan as a nation may be, it is not reflected in the quality of life of its citizens, and the need to make improvements is recognized.

As far as foreign policy is concerned, the close relationship with the US remains the corner-stone. But Mr Takeshita has been carefully and systematically setting out three new lines. The first, explained on his visit to London in May, is that at a time of American decline it is important to strengthen the weakest of the three sides of the western triangle, US-Japan-Europe, which is relations between Japan and western Europe; and that the way to begin is by increasing cultural exchanges.

The second, outlined at the United Nations at the beginning of this month, is that

Japan is now prepared to take a more active, if still limited, part, falling short of military participation, in peace-keeping operations in such areas as Afghanistan and, possibly, Cambodia.

The third, set out at the recent western economic summit in Toronto, is that Japan will do substantially more in the field of foreign aid.

None of these represents a startling departure in Japanese policy. Their significance is that together they are the first moves to be outlined by a Japan which has become aware of its new position in the world, and is cautiously feeling its way towards greater involvement in international affairs, beyond trade and finance.

In the background is the question of Japan's future defence policies. Since the Second World War, Japan has been ultimately dependent for its defence on US forces, both conventional and nuclear, and this has served it well, enabling it to spend only a limited part of its own budget

Tokyo's commuters head for their offices and, above, a figure from "Dreaming of Aubergines" a woodblock print by Mangetudo in the British Museum's exhibition (see page 35)

on defence. It is firmly established policy that the Self-Defence Forces exist only to defend Japanese territory and cannot venture outside the necessary perimeter.

But under Mr Nakasone the formal limit of one per cent of gnp spent on defence was passed, if only by a fraction; and even at that level, given the high level of Japan's gnp, the country is spending a great deal on defence.

For the moment, there is no desire to have a higher defence profile, not least to avoid disturbing Japan's neighbours in Asia. There is even reluctance to be seen to be contributing to the cost of the US bases in the Philippines, as requested by Washington, vital though the bases are to Japan's own security.

But the potential is there, and in an era of American decline, there are those who see Japan having to do more to assure its own security, either singly or in cooperation with others. That, too, is part of the equation as Japan considers its new role in a changing world.

Relations with the UK are good

A friendship set to last

Britain and Japan appear poised on the brink of an era of good relations unseen since the days of the First World War, when ships of the Imperial Navy sailed alongside their Royal Navy counterparts.

If the military alliance seems inappropriate to the 1980s that is only partly true, since in the early part of the century it was mutual recognition of their respective power and influence which led them to accommodate each other. So now, at British bidding, both seem decided to try to put aside short-term quarrels in favour of building a more long-term relationship.

The new pragmatism first became public during a visit by the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, early in the year, when he spoke of a new, dynamic, plain-speaking relationship. Both Sir Geoffrey's visit and a subsequent one by Lord Young, Minister of Trade, were certainly dynamic visits with plenty of motion.

The plain speaking, not surprisingly, was to come later from Mrs Thatcher herself in an interview given to *Yomiuri Shimbun* shortly before the official visit to Britain by Noboru Takeshita, the Japanese Prime Minister. She accused Japan of seeking to maintain a permanent trade surplus with the rest of the world.

Taxes on Scotch whisky and the seats on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, the two key outstanding issues, are in fact still making up a disproportionate amount of time in the relationship relative to their importance. Though the Japanese side has proffered changes in the structure of taxes on alcohol they have yet to be approved by the Diet, most likely as part of the overall tax reform to be discussed next month.

But both sides, there are wider concerns. For Japan, Britain looms large as a centre for investment in the European Economic Community as the EEC moves towards unification in 1992.

Over the past year the number of Japanese manufacturing investments in Britain has risen from 50 to 80, maintaining Britain's position as the country receiving the lion's share of such investment in Europe.

Japan also sees Britain as an ally in the EEC, especially as 1992 approaches and Tokyo could find itself needing all the friends it can get should the community show signs of turning into a more protectionist trading block.

For Britain, the underlying aim of the smiling face it is turning towards Japan is to develop a closer relationship with a country which seems bound to play an increasingly important part in world affairs; Japan could make an invaluable contribution to joint policies in various parts of the world. There is already greater consultation along these lines.

Beyond that, geographical distance ensures that the two countries are not instinctive friends and associates; and most Japanese look first to the US. But Britain enjoys a singular position as the birthplace of English and the associated artistic achievements, as is manifested in the building of a new Shakespeare Globe Theatre in Tokyo, where the plays are performed in the original language.

Great importance is attached in Tokyo to the Japan Exchange and Teaching programme (JET), introduced last year, by which teachers of English come to Japan on one-year contracts.

David Watts

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JAPAN/2

FOCUS

The rapid expansion of industry against a strong currency and other odds is seen by some observers as a second economic miracle

The boom goes on



So rapid has been Japan's growth rate during the past year, and so strong the performance of her industry in the face of adversity, that observers have been tempted into seeing recent events as a second economic miracle.

Certainly, the way in which businesses have taken on board the rise in the yen's value, and not allowed it to affect them, and the way the economy as a whole sailed through last autumn's stock market crash, suggest that the economy has embarked on a new phase.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development predicts growth in Japan of more than 4 per cent this year, and only a slight slowdown in 1989. This growth, which follows a rate of 4.2 per cent last year, confirms Japan as the fastest-growing of the leading economies.

Two years ago, when Japan was under international pressure to open her markets and the dollar was falling sharply, the prospects for the economy looked grim.

Few outsiders saw the government's commitment to pursuing the advice of the Maekawa Commission — which called for a shift in the emphasis of the Japanese economy away from its traditional export bias — as anything more than another pledge in a long line designed to divert protectionist pressure, notably in the United States, away from Japan.

Two years on, and such a shift has undoubtedly occurred. Imports have risen strongly. Britain's exports to

Japan, for example, have risen by around 50 per cent in the past two years.

Fears that the rising yen would lead to serious difficulties for Japanese industry have proved to be entirely unfounded. The Bank of Japan's quarterly survey of business confidence, released on June 10, showed that Japanese corporations were at their most optimistic about the business outlook since November 1979.

The official Economic Policy Council, which published five-year projections for the Japanese economy towards the end of May, expected an average annual growth rate of 3.75 per cent during the period 1988-92.

Echoing the earlier report of the Maekawa Commission, it called for the good economic performance to be linked directly to "the qualitative improvement of people's lives".

In particular, the council recommended a reduction in annual working hours from 2,100 to 1,800, and a change in land and housing policies. At

present high property prices tie up a higher proportion of the average worker's income than is the case in any other major country.

Meanwhile, tax reform is proceeding, with a new sales tax to be introduced in the near future, designed to allow room for reductions in income tax. The *maruyama* system of tax reliefs on small savings was abolished in April.

This system, which encouraged the Japanese to put their savings into post office accounts, was said to have been an important contributory factor in the legendary high savings of the Japanese people, which have averaged around 30 per cent of income.

The decisions taken in 1986 to shift the balance of the Japanese economy towards domestically generated growth were seen by the council as continuing to bear fruit during the next few years. Growth in domestic demand, projected at 4.25 per cent a year, is higher than the 3.75 per cent overall growth rate for the economy.

Even so, there is still consid-

erable doubt about whether the factor that provided the impetus for change in the Japanese economy — the country's huge surplus on the current account of the balance of payments — is falling quickly enough to satisfy international opinion.

The OECD suggests only a modest decline in the current account surplus during the next 18 months — \$85 billion this year and \$79.75 billion in 1989, against \$87 billion last year.

That aside, the main worry about the economy is whether, in fact, the response to changing circumstances has been too vigorous, and whether the present situation will result in a substantial increase in inflation.

It is true that Bank of Japan officials have welcomed the yen's rise for its restraining effects on inflation.

But there remain official worries nevertheless about the dangers of a resurgence in inflation. This year's spring offensive by the trade unions signalled a significant increase in the upward pressure on wages.

David Pike, an economist at UBS-Phillips & Drew in Tokyo, says the Bank of Japan would probably have acted already to tighten policy by raising interest rates were it not for the vulnerability of the current international financial situation.

"The Bank of Japan feels constrained by the precarious nature of financial market confidence," he said.

"It is acutely aware of the focus of attention on the possibility of a tightening of policy and the deleterious impact on confidence that such a tightening would have. The Bank of Japan is keen to avoid a decline in the Tokyo market that could trigger a domino-like collapse of investor sentiment world-wide."

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

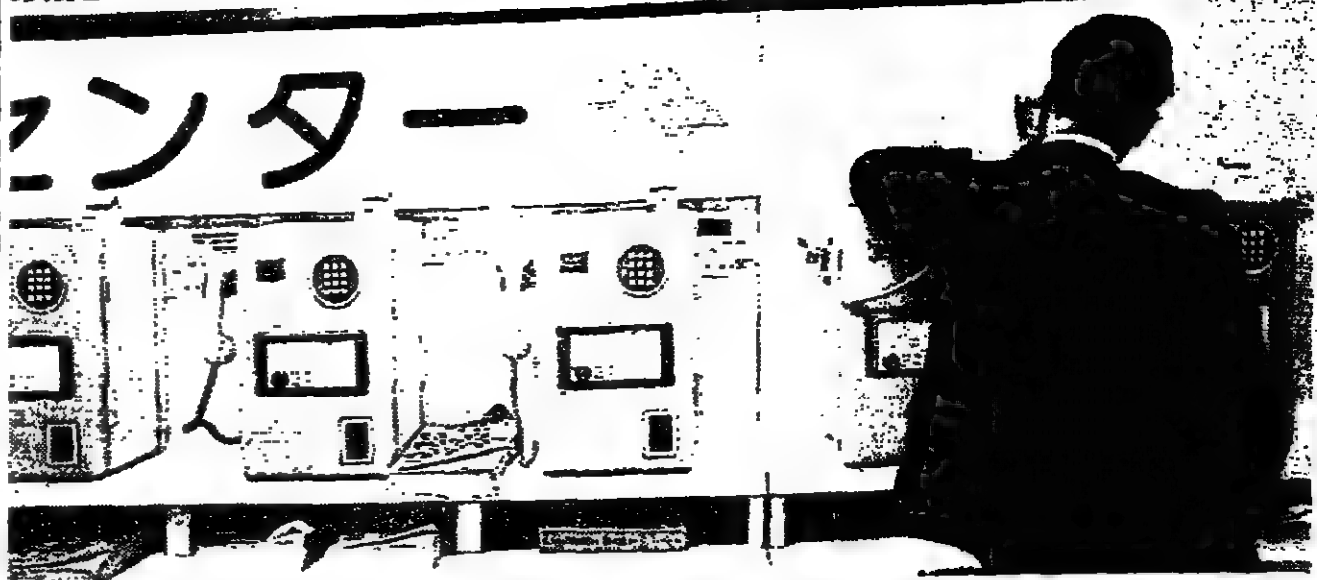


Noboru Takeshita, the prime minister, holding the reins of an economic miracle



あなたの郷土の紋章は?

あなたの郷土の紋章は?



Making that call: Japan is the country with the most heavily capitalized stock market in the world and the most expensive land but there is surprisingly little perception of the country's real wealth

Great wealth that forges special links

The American Ambassador likes to call it the single most important bilateral relationship in the world, but the Tokyo-Washington axis is more like a constellation of relationships, ranging from the all-important defence tie to the minutiae of trade in agricultural products.

For those who follow the Pacific partnership no more closely than the headlines in the morning newspaper it often appears to be dominated by the latest trade dispute, be it over Japanese imports of beef and oranges or American access to construction contracts.

Seen from the viewpoint of a third party in Japan, however, the antagonists in the US Congress and the Department of Commerce may be missing the more fundamental point, which is that the difference in the economic structure of the two countries has helped to bring about a fundamental transfer of wealth, and that this has much greater significance for the long term than a few hundred million dollars' worth of agricultural imports.

The movement of capital and purchasing power from the United States to Japan since the Plaza Agreement of 1985, through which the US started to force down the

value of the dollar, in no way matches the flood of oil money into the Arab countries during the 1970s.

But it took only a matter of a few years to redirect that one-way torrent, whereas the shift during the past three years from the US to Japan, with its regular \$80 billion global trade surpluses, might take 50 years to reverse. It points to a new relationship of which many, particularly in the Congress, are not yet even dimly aware.

The new partnership, in fact, demands that the two countries, so far drawn together largely by necessity despite the constant professions of friendship, must come to terms with each other anew.

On the Japanese side, the reality is that apart from a relatively small number of politicians, bureaucrats, ac-

ademics and journalists, the great majority do not understand why they should be so unpopular with the rest of the world.

Cramped living conditions, relatively little free time and the fact that they are being priced out of homes in their own capital city mean that ordinary citizens have no sense that the country, as a nation, is enormously wealthy, and is continuing to grow more wealthy by the month at the expense of the rest of the world.

But the fact is that it is now Japan that is the country with the most heavily capitalized stock market in the world, the world's largest foreign currency reserves, the most valuable overseas assets and the world's most expensive land; and these combine to make it into a formidable competitor in American eyes.

The significance of the new reality is being felt first in defence, where Japan is taking on an ever larger share of the cost of the shared defence arrangements, including funding the upkeep and allowances of US forces in Japan.

More significant, though, is the United States' increasing technological dependence on Japan. There is said to be no modern weapons system in service with the United States armed forces which does not depend on at least some Japanese computer chips.

The two countries have recently entered into a co-production agreement to develop the FSX, Japan's next-generation strike fighter to replace its current F-16.

In the long run, whether US military planners like it or not, Japan must perforce become an important element of American strategic thinking as weapons systems become more expensive and as sophisticated technologies become the preserve of a smaller group of advanced companies.

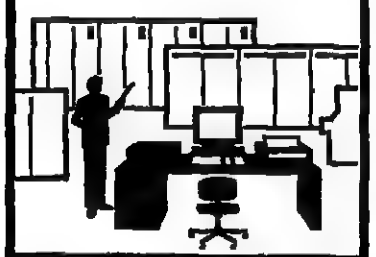
There is also the American hope that Japanese aid money could become an instrument for the preservation of economic systems in less well-off countries.

David Watts

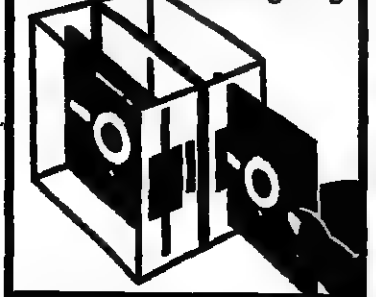
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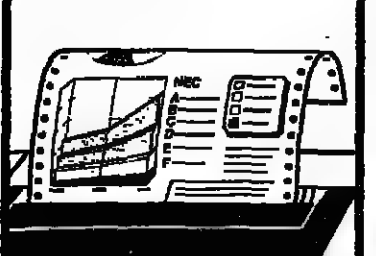
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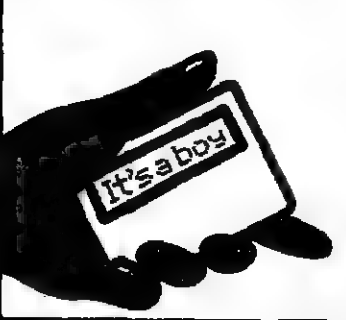
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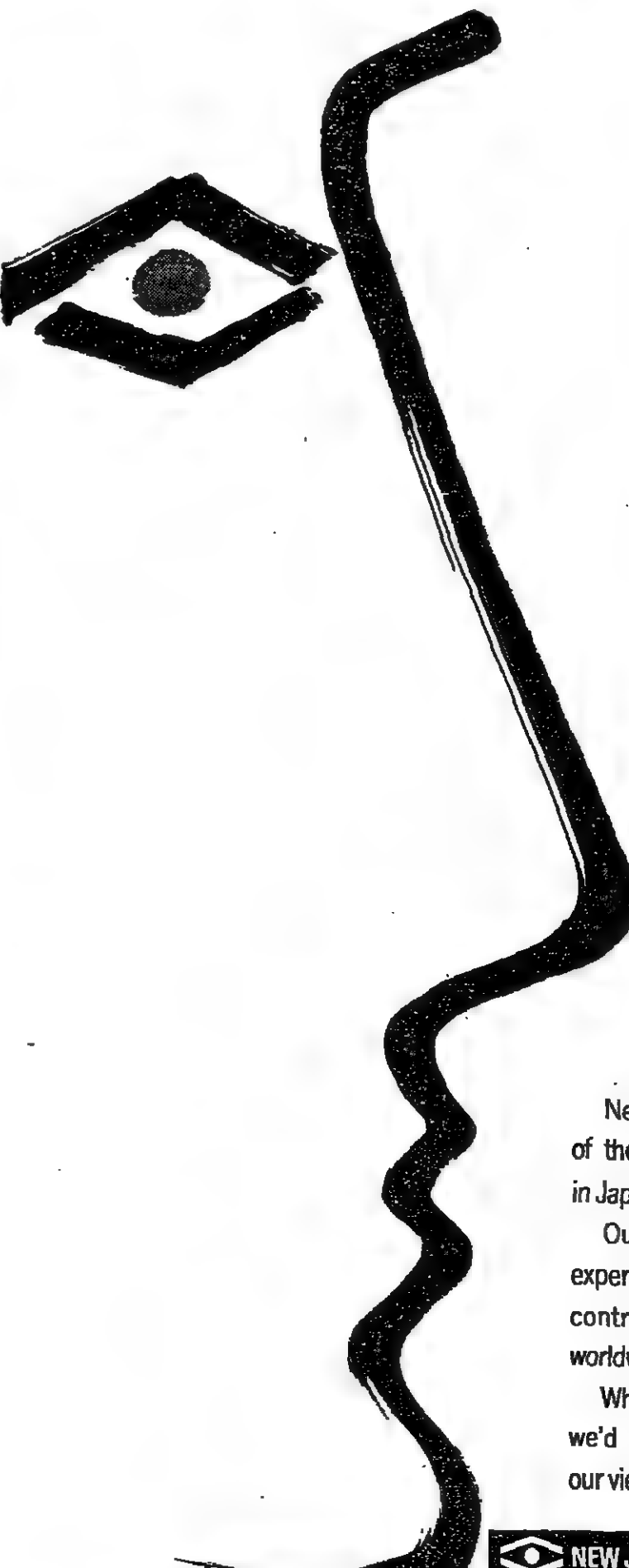


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THE CITY HAS A NEW OUTLOOK

THE CITY HAS A NEW OUTLOOK

مركز في الأصل

Changing times that demand a strong man



If ever Japan needed inspired leadership, both at home and abroad, it is now. At home the country is undergoing changes that are going to alter the very nature of its society, while abroad exports are accelerating again to a level that is barely mitigated by the rise in imports, and expectations of Japan are reaching new levels.

The challenge to Noboru Takeshita, the Prime Minister, and to the Japanese political system as a whole, is whether they can meet both those domestic and foreign requirements. It will take courage and originality, and also a greater measure of democracy.

The conventional wisdom has it that after a strong leader such as the former Prime Minister, Yasuhiro Nakasone,

Japan instinctively turns to a more "Japanese" type of leadership. That means someone (such as Mr Takeshita) who will absorb the consensus, and then reflect it in policy.

But the consensus that tends to be reflected is made up of the concerns of the special interest groups that have the strongest influence in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), which often have very little to do with the national or popular interest.

And the fact is that whether Japan and the Japanese like it or not, history, and their own extraordinary talent and industry, have thrust them into a position where unprecedented expectations are placed on them, demanding an unaccustomed measure of leadership that their system of itself is not geared to provide.

What has still to be seen is not only whether Mr Takeshita has realized that, but whether he can translate it into action. Will he be better able to solve these problems than his predecessor, Mr Nakasone, who was too aggressive and disruptive of the system to be productive in the long run? Witness, say Mr

Nakasone's critics, the failure of his hasty attempt to get tax reform through the parliament.

It was thought that Mr Takeshita's softly, softly style would be the antidote to all that and wish tax reform through on the strength of his party contacts.

But after the first session of the Diet in the Takeshita era there is no sign that he is any better at massaging contentious issues through the parliament than was Mr Nakasone. Certainly the need for tax reform now seems widely accepted, but it is far from clear that it is going to be the sort of thoroughgoing change to a more productive and fair system that Mr Nakasone was after.

On present indications, it will do little to combat the huge corporate tax evasion that is a fact of life, for instance, nor will it do much to free land in urban areas for building now kept under agriculture for tax reasons.

On coming into office Mr Takeshita committed himself to tackling the question of land prices, which have risen anything up to 100 per cent per year in metropolitan areas,

and his first act was to set an investigation in motion. But the reality is that the fortunes of many Japanese banks, and the solidity of many companies, all big contributors to the party, depend heavily on the value of their real estate holdings.

That future generations of citizens of the second most economically powerful country in the world cannot expect to own their own home, and the party's lack of urgency about the problem, are a commentary on the relationship between the LDP and its grass-roots support that Mr Takeshita had better heed.

That sector comprises the young, urban, bright and upwardly mobile young Japanese, who are getting more and more exposure abroad to the possibilities that full liberalization of the economy could offer. They will be an increasingly important group for the party to consider as change makes special interest groups such as farmers less relevant, and industry becomes more diversified away from Japan's traditional areas of strength.

David Watts



Preparing for a competitive future: from an early age Japan's schoolchildren start out as they mean to go on, well-dressed, ready to conform and eager to follow the work-disciplined lead of their elders

The second city plans a comeback

There is a commanding view from the office of Osamu Uno, chairman of the Toyobo Company and chairman of the Kansai Economic Federation (Kankeiren), writes Peter Strafford. Far below, the two arms of the Tasabari river meet the Kizu river and head towards Osaka Bay. All around are the tall and mostly new buildings of the centre of Osaka, one of Japan's most dynamic cities.

Yet Mr Uno, like other leading Osaka businessmen, talks a great deal about the city's decline. On the one hand, he says proudly that Osaka and its hinterland, the six prefectures making up the Kansai region, represent nearly 20 per cent of Japan's gross national product (gdp) and about three per cent of the combined gdp of the whole world.

But on the other, he says that Osaka, where Japanese economic development took off in centuries gone by, has been in decline since 1868. That was when the Emperor

moved from Kyoto to Tokyo at the time of the Meiji Restoration, and Tokyo became pre-eminent in a way that it had never been before.

Mr Uno and his colleagues are not saying that the Kansai region, which also includes Kyoto and Kobe, is losing ground to most other parts of Japan, still less to other parts of the world.

What bothers them is that Osaka has been so far outstripped by Tokyo, now more than ever the economic and financial capital of Japan, that many Kansai companies have moved their main offices there. And the businessmen of Osaka are determined to do something about it.

They have prepared an Osaka 21st Century Plan, which includes some very substantial projects,

headed by the construction of an international airport on a man-made island in Osaka Bay. Their intention is, if not to catch up with Tokyo, at least to reduce the gap between the two cities.

It is noticeable how much such

Centre of political power shifted

businessmen, clearly not given to sentimentality, hark back. Like Mr Uno, Keizo Saji, president of Sanyo and of the Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, lays great stress on the fact that historically the Kansai region was the centre of Japan.

Early emperors had their seat

first in Nara, east of Osaka, and later in Kyoto. Even after the centre of political power shifted to distant Edo, as Tokyo was then known, at the time of the shogunate, Osaka with its traders and businessmen became Japan's most important economic centre. In the last century it came to be known as the "Manchester of the Orient" because of its textile industry.

A traditional Osaka greeting, exchanged between businessmen, is *Mokari makka?* (Are you making money?), and in more recent years the region has produced many of Japan's most remarkable entrepreneurs. Konesuke Matsushita, now an active 94, was born in Wakayama, south of Osaka, and in 1918 founded the company that has become the giant

Matsushita Electric Industrial, with a presence in 38 foreign countries. Shinjiro Terui, father of Keizo Saji, founded the company now known as Sanyo in 1899.

Electronics companies such as Sanyo and Sharp, the ceramics company Kyocera, and the Sanwa and Sanitomo banks were all founded in the Kansai region before becoming known worldwide. Today, however, the businessmen of Osaka feel eclipsed by Tokyo, and they are also having to adjust to new circumstances, particular to the region. There has always been a strong manufacturing base in Kansai, and long-established industries such as textiles and steel are now facing leaner times.

Another problem is that many of

Osaka's businesses are small or medium-sized, and find it harder than the big companies to diversify. And then there is the rising value of the yen, which has made life more difficult for all Japan's exporters.

Osaka, Manchester of the Orient

But there is every determination to meet the challenge, and Mr Uno talks of a list of about 460 projects in the 21st Century Plan. The new airport, which is the largest of them, and is due to open in five years' time, will be the only one in Japan to operate 24 hours a day

and is intended to attract business to the Kansai region.

Other projects include a new Kansai Science City on a site midway between the three historic cities of Osaka, Kyoto and Nara, described as a vast, internationally orientated cultural metropolis; and Technoport Osaka, which will be an urban complex built on reclaimed land in Osaka Bay, with a telecommunications centre linking Osaka to other parts of Asia.

Osaka is not going to abandon its manufacturing traditions. Its businesses are at the forefront of technology, Mr Uno says, in areas such as electronics, biotechnology and the development of new industrial materials.

But it is rethinking its future, and the fact that it is planning a World Fashion Fair, "Pulchrade", for 1989, and an International Garden and Greenery Exposition for 1990, show that it is determined to broaden its range.

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ARRIVING

The most pleasant way to get to Japan is on Japan Air Lines' overnight non-stop flight from Heathrow. However, when you reach Narita Airport, you will find that you are still 40 miles from Tokyo. There are limousine buses to the main hotels (a good introduction to Tokyo's traffic problems) or, for the adventurous, the Skyliner express train will speed you to Keisei Ueno station, after which you will have to find your own way.

GETTING ABOUT

SUBWAYS: Tokyo's underground is clean, safe, efficient and punctual and, with the aid of a map (available from the Tourist Information Centre (TIC), 1-8-8 Yurakucho) easy to use. Most journeys cost ¥120 to ¥140 (£1 = about ¥220). Of the JR (Japan Railway) lines, the most useful is the Yamanote, which circles the city.

TAXIS: There are plenty of cabs; a red light means "for hire". But taxi-drivers seldom speak English and never know the way. Take along the name and address of your destination in Japanese so that your driver can ask a policeman.

For help in English, call the TIC Travel Phone, 502 1461.

HOTELS

Despite Tokyo's fearsome reputation for high prices, the hotels are no more expensive than those in other big capitals. Expect to pay ¥20,000-¥30,000 a night in the top hotels, ¥10,000 for a small but spotless room in a mid-range one.

ANA: 1-12-33 Akasaka, 505 1111. One of Tokyo's newest hotels and part of the Ark Hills complex, where many foreign companies and banks are concentrated; also close to the Roppongi and Akasaka nightlife areas.

HILTON: 6-2 Nishi-Shinjuku 5-chome, 344 5111. The best hotel in the Shinjuku area.

IMPERIAL: 1-1 Uchisaiwaicho 1-chome, 504 1111. Second only to the Okura for prestige (an important commodity in this city), arguably top for facilities and service. Well used by tourists and business travellers, and its bars and restaurants are a social hub for local residents too.

Unbeatable location, a few minutes' walk from Ginza and the Marunouchi business area.

A visitor's guide to a city of bustle, vitality and a host of diversions, from good food to kabuki theatre

A vital city

NEW OTANI: 4-1 Kioicho, 265 1111. Excellent tourist location, close to the glamorous shops and nightlife of Akasaka — and the largest hotel in Asia, housing over 100 shops and one of the most famous (and exclusive) restaurants in the country, Nadaman.

OKURA: 2-10-4 Toranomon, 582 0111. The best address in town and the only place for top visiting executives; old, grand, prestigious, with impeccable service and a very Japanese atmosphere.

PRESIDENT: 2-2-3 Minami Aoyama, 497 0111. The best of the mid-range hotels.

RESTAURANTS

NADAMAN: Hotel New Otani garden, 265 1111. *Kaiseki*. One of the country's three top restaurants. Entry is restricted to top people and their guests; a most flattering place to be invited. There is a second branch in the hotel itself for the hoi polloi.

MINOKUCHI: B1 Rof Bldg, 5-5 Roppongi, 404 0767. *Kaiseki*. A branch of a famous Kyoto restaurant and refreshingly unexclusive.

HASSAIE: B1 Danki Bldg, 6-1-20 Roppongi, 403 8333. *Shabushabu*. Tatami

rooms, sliding paper doors and a bamboo grove, all in the heart of neon-lit Roppongi. The kimono-clad waitresses welcome westerners.

SUSHI SEI: 2F Sunrise Roppongi Building, 3-2-8 Nishi Azabu, 401 0578. Long queues, authentically rowdy chefs and good fresh *sushi* at reasonable prices.

FUKUZUSHI: 5-7-8 Roppongi, 402 4116. Top quality *sushi* in a stylish modern Tokyo environment.

KIKUKAWA: 1-24 Sudacho, Kanda, 251 7925. Best eel in Tokyo.

INAKAYA: 3-12-7 Akasaka, 586 3054. *Robata-yaki* — seasonal meats, seafoods and vegetables grilled over charcoal and passed across to the expectant customers on long wooden paddles.

TOKHALIN: 6F Hotel Okura, 505 6068. Tokyo's best Chinese restaurant, haunt of Sumo wrestlers, celebrities and expense-account executives.

KEYAKI GRILL: B1 Capitol Tokyo Hotel, 10-3 Nagatacho 2-chome, 581 4511. Continental. One of Japan's finest hotel restaurants and the first choice for a business lunch or business entertaining.

QUEEN ALICE: 3-17-34 Nishi-Azabu, 405 9039. *Kaiseki French* — nouvelle cuisine served *kaiseki*

style, not one but many tiny exquisite hors d'oeuvres and main courses. One of Tokyo's most fashionable restaurants.

SPAGO: 5-7-8 Roppongi, 423 4025. A branch of the Los Angeles Spago and an opportunity to try Wolfgang Puck's nouvelle-inspired "California cuisine".

SHOPPING

DEPARTMENT STORES: For one-stop shopping — or simply to admire the magnificent range of goods and stunning displays — visit the new SEIBU in Yurakucho; there are English-speaking staff in the Foreign Customers' Liaison Office (5F). The latest in Japanese design is to be found in AXIS, 17-1 Roppongi.

CLOTHES: Japanese designer fashion is one of Tokyo's surprise bargains; off-the-peg clothes sell for a third of their London prices. Issey Miyake, Comme des Garçons and other top designers have boutiques in Shibuya in the PARCO and SEED fashion complexes and in FROM 1st in Minami Aoyama.

ELECTRONIC GOODS, HIGH-TECH TOYS: As a rule of thumb, if it is available in Britain, wait until you get home to buy; it's probably cheaper there. This is the place to stock up on the latest electronic gadgets; the range and quality available is unbeatable.

Avoid the tourist-oriented tax-free shops; go to Akihabara for electronic goods and Shinjuku for cameras.

ENTERTAINMENT

For details of current cultural events, consult the TIC and the listings in the local English-language publications, *Tokyo Journal*, *The Magazine* and *Tour Companion*. Be sure not to miss *kabuki*. The programme at the KABUKI THEATRE, 4-12-15 Ginza, 541 3131, changes monthly and there are English-language programmes and earphone guides. This is the place to see Tamasaburo, the celebrated young actor who plays female roles.

ESCAPING

Kyoto — Japan as you always imagined it, full of temples, shrines, palaces and gardens — and Osaka, the business hub of the country, are a comfortable three hours from Tokyo on the Shinkansen, the Bullet Train.

Compiled by Lesley Downer

Adventures of ritual eating in the restaurant capital

Japan is in the throes of a *gourmet boom* — "gourmet boom". At the head of the movement is Juzo Itami, celebrated *bon vivant* and director of *Tampopo*, a film comedy devoted entirely to food and billed as the world's first "noodle Eastern", writes Lesley Downer.

But the Japanese have always taken their food seriously. Like everything else in Japan, it is highly sophisticated, surrounded by mystery and ritual, with a long history, and quite unlike any other. *Kaiseki*, Japan's haute cuisine, was the inspiration behind the French nouvelle cuisine when Paul Bocuse first encountered it on a visit to Japan twenty years ago.

And thanks to the Japanese love of eating out and the importance it plays in their business relationship, the country must surely boast more restaurants and eating houses per head than anywhere in the world.

What inspired Bocuse was the beauty of Japanese food and the care which goes into presentation, as well as the purity and freshness of the ingredients and the simple cooking methods. These qualities imbue every sort of Japanese cuisine, from the humblest bowl of noodles in a station noodle stand to the grandest *kaiseki* meal in a *ryotei*, a restaurant open only to regular customers.

Akasaka, one of Tokyo's most glamorous districts, is full of *ryotei*, hidden behind high walls and forbidding gates. Here, if you are lucky enough to be invited, you will sit in an austere Japanese room with a garden of gnarled pines outside and a flower arrangement in the alcove.

Kaiseki originated as the cuisine which accompanies the tea ceremony; and each dish is a tiny picture, an edible work of art, intended to satisfy the eye as much as the tongue.

Your raw fish, for example, may come shaped into a white chrysanthemum, decorated with a minuscule cucumber the size of a matchstick, complete with yellow flower; or it might be part of a miniature landscape, with elegant pinnacles of shredded white radish, cucumber greenery and real willow twigs for decoration.

Kaiseki is for the few. But there are thousands of colourful noisy restaurants — the streets of every Japanese city are lined with them — offering smells and tastes every bit as delicious.

At *sukiyaki* and *shabushabu* restaurants, you are provided with a bib and a plate of paper-thin slices of raw beef and left to cook your own dinner. In the case of *sukiyaki*, you sauté it on an iron griddle; while for *shabushabu* you swish



An enthusiastic welcome: everything from salted squid to white radish.

it in stock (the sound it makes is "*shabu shabu*"). As a nation of Buddhists, the Japanese have only recently taken to eating meat. But their beef is said to be the best in the world.

Chicken, on the other hand has long been part of the Japanese diet. There are *yakitori* bars down every side-street, where businessmen drop in for a few skewerfuls of charcoal-grilled chicken.

But it is fish which is the real glory of the cuisine: fish, seafood, seaweeds, the produce of the sea. The freshest fish is served raw — it would be a sin to serve it any other way — as *sashimi*, glossy succulent slices of dark red tuna or white squid, orange shellfish, sweet pink prawns or any number of other varieties for which there is no English name.

In some restaurants you choose your fish from the aquarium, and the head and tail, still twitching, are served alongside the flesh, as proof of perfect freshness — or your raw fish may come as *sushi*, deftly cupped over balls of rice delicately flavoured with vinegar. Then there is *tempura* — fish, seafood and vegetables deep-fried in the lightest and ticiest of batters; *teriyaki*, grilled fish brushed with a rich sauce; *nitsuke*, fish

summered in sweet stock... the list is endless.

All these you can taste without ever leaving Tokyo. But for the best fish you need to travel out to the little fishing villages along Japan's extensive coasts. Hokkaido, the island in the north, is famous for crab, giant salmon and scallops.

Central Japan, the area around Nagoya, is the place to seek out fresh sardines or *ayu*, sweet trout.

As for Kyushu, the main island in the south, this is where you will find the best eel. Eel — *unagi* — is a summer food and an aphrodisiac (or so they say); and no part of it is ever wasted. The succulent and oily filets, grilled over charcoal and brushed with sweetened soy sauce, are served with a soup of tiny grey eel livers, eel heads and livers skewered like kebabs and crunchy deep-fried eel backbone.

One southern dish which you may prefer to miss is *fugu*, the legendary blowfish. Its liver contains a lethal poison. Properly prepared by a licensed chef, it is perfectly safe, although the best bit (perhaps it appeals to the *kamikaze* instinct) is the delicate flesh right beside the liver, said to make your lips pleasantly numb.

Still committed to Europe.

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Himeji castle, west
Tra

Right enough, most
visitors to Japan begin
up to Kyoto, and perh
neighbouring Nara, the
former imperial capital
of them full of temples
older buildings which
Japan's long history an
artistic achievements.

But there is much to be
discovered, particularly in
Japan, and the eff
Japanese railway sy
makes travel easy. Both
Air Lines and British Air
have flights to Osaka
regional centre.

It can be daunting to
in a station where every
appears to be written in
kana or to step outside an
be able to read even the
of the streets. But if one
for key notices, written
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Japanese people are, in
and friendly, straining
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For proof that Japan is
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name of Ise, or Ise Jing
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south-east of Kyoto. I
Shima shrine, is one o
Japan's most revered sites,
provides a remarkable
with the simpler days
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There are in fact two
shrines, several miles
and more than 120 lesser
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Buddhism.

FOCUS

How an intriguing oriental tradition came into fashion in the West

Looking at the art of the ephemeral

It is appropriate in one sense that the British Museum's current Japanese print exhibition, "Ukiyo: Images of Unknown Japan", has an entrance charge and also an advertising function. For the "pictures of the floating world" (Ukiyo), which have been known and admired in Europe and North America for more than 130 years were originally very much to do with money.

They were produced by strictly commercial artists, publishers and printers for profit, and had become one of the most flourishing urban industries by the end of the 18th century.

Their subject matter, too, was often directly linked to three other prime commercial activities of the period, namely the theatre, the entertainment district centred on the great houses of courtesans, and the fashion and textile industry which supplied both and depended on them to promote the latest patterns.

Surprises for the creators

The woodblock prints, by providing cheap, memorable and up-to-date images of courtesans, actors and the fashionable urban world, played an increasingly important part in advertising them and making them household names.

The British Museum's show uses these flavoursome works of art for rather less exotic ends which would no doubt have greatly surprised their original creators. They would have been most surprised, one guesses, that their prints would survive a few decades, let alone a few centuries, for it was an industry of the ephemeral.

They might have been pleased, being good business-



men of the great cities, that a new public was willing to pay to see their works, and that the profits would go to help build a great Japanese gallery.

They would surely have been amazed, but no doubt delighted, that their works would be one day so admired that they would become one of the most treasured groups of objects in one of the world's greatest museums and would be used as a symbol to publicize the excellence of its Japanese collections.

The history of Japanese popular prints is one of ups and downs and strange reversals. During the period they were produced (roughly late 17th to mid 19th century), they were bought and enjoyed mainly by the urban populace of Edo (Tokyo), Osaka, Kyoto and Nagoya.

Japan was then in a long period of self-imposed isolation, and Ukiyo prints were almost never seen in Europe, and not noticed if they were

seen. In this isolation, Japan developed a unique, complex culture.

With the end of the isolation (usually dated to 1853), as Japan seemed to lose interest in its traditional culture in a headlong programme of westernization, so the visiting westerners became entranced by the easily available prints, at that time little valued in their country of origin.

Western enthusiasts found they could buy them cheaply, and the Japanese dealer Hayashi, cashing in on the craze, is known to have ex-

Great private collections

ported more than a million to Europe towards the end of the 19th century.

Then it was that the great private collections in Britain and France were made; and it was mainly by encouraging the British enthusiasts and acquiring their collections by purchase, gift or bequest that Lawrence Binyon built up the British Museum's outstanding holdings.

Though they had high prestige among connoisseurs, Japanese prints remained moderately cheap up to the Second World War, when for obvious reasons they became unpopular. Binyon's successor, Basil Gray, continued to buy at ridiculously low prices

in the years after the war when Japanese popularity was at its lowest.

Those were the days when the British Museum paid sums like £1 or £2 for landscapes by Hiroshige, and up to £10 for a "primitive" masterpiece by artists such as Masanobu. Even the finest female portraits by Utamaro rarely went above £20 at that period.

It was not until the early 1960s that the prices began to go up more steeply. This was the beginning of a new phase, fuelled by a new, rich generation of American collectors, some of whom had first-hand knowledge of Japan itself.

By the mid-1960s, the British Museum was no longer buying the classic prints of the 18th century, especially Utamaro, because they had "gone above three figures". The price for a copy of Utamaro's portrait of the tea-house waitress Oshichi no last year exceeded £200,000.

In the mid-1960s, too, the Japanese themselves at last began to appreciate fully the artistic achievements of the centuries of isolation, and of the popular prints, books and paintings of the Ukiyo school once virtually omitted from their histories of art.

Since then Japanese dealers have increasingly visited our auction houses to see what they can recover, and prices in Japan are known to be very high indeed.

The graceful prints once described by one hostile British critic as "plebeian genre" are now seen as one of Japan's greatest contributions to world art.

It is not so surprising, then, that the British Museum's exhibition of classic prints in fine condition seems at times half full of Japanese visitors.

Lawrence Smith
The author is keeper of Japanese Antiquities at the British Museum.

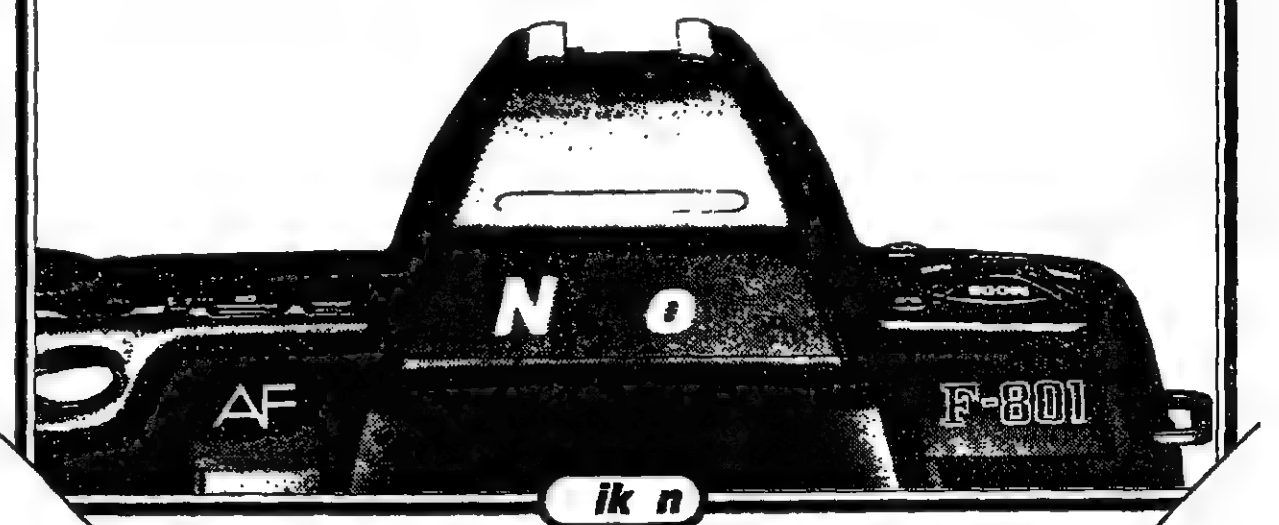
Asian appeal

The British Museum's Japanese Gallery Appeal was launched in 1985 to raise money for five purposes: a new suite of galleries; new controlled storage for the museum's collection of Japanese paintings, prints, books and lacquer; a new study room with a reference library; a doubling in size of the studio for the conservation of East Asian paintings; and funds for the exchange of scholars and conservators with Japan.



Print of silver pheasants by Keisai Masayoshi

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Himeji castle, west of Osaka: one of the most striking military buildings ever

Tranquil glories

Rightly enough, most foreign visitors to Japan begin with a trip to Kyoto, and perhaps to neighbouring Nara, the two former imperial capitals, both of them full of temples and other buildings which reflect Japan's long history and its artistic achievements.

But there is much to be seen elsewhere, particularly in central Japan, and the efficient Japanese railway system makes travel easy. Both Japan Air Lines and British Airways have flights to Osaka, the regional centre.

It can be daunting to arrive in a station where everything appears to be written in Japanese, or to step outside and not be able to read even the names of the streets. But if one looks carefully there are usually a few key notices written in English; and if there are not, Japanese people are, in my experience, both ready to help and friendly, straining their resources of English to help the lost-looking foreigner.

For proof that Japan is not all crowded cities and modern technology, one could hardly do better than visit the grand shrine of Ise, or Ise Jingu, set in a tranquil, wooded area south-east of Kyoto. Ise, a Shinto shrine, is one of Japan's most revered sites, and it provides a remarkable link with the simpler days of the remote past, before even the advent of Chinese influence and Buddhism.

There are in fact two main shrines, several miles apart, and more than 120 lesser ones, scattered through the woods. Naiku, which according to ancient chronicles was founded in 4 BC, is dedicated to the goddess Amaterasu-Omikami, and has a special place

Peter Strafford finds historical charm away from the crowds

because the goddess is regarded as the ancestral goddess of the imperial family and guardian deity of the Japanese nation.

Geku, the second main one, is dedicated to another goddess, Toyonke-Omikami, and was rather later, being founded in AD 478, but is in a similar architectural style. Toyonke-Omikami is believed to preside over food, clothing, housing and all the fundamental necessities of life.

What is remarkable is not that such beliefs should have been held many hundreds of years ago, but that the rituals attached to them should have continued until the present day. Shinto sprang from the Japanese attachment to such natural phenomena as the sun, water, trees and rocks, and the Ise woods are particularly beautiful and evocative even today, dominated by towering cryptomeria trees, a sort of place.

Shinto priests, dressed in elaborate vestments, still perform ceremonies on special days, and day in and day out there is a flow of visitors, most of them in groups, who arrive to pay their respects. They pause in front of the shrines, clap their hands, say a prayer, and move on.

The buildings themselves are plain and simple, made entirely of wood, with thatched roofs and protruding beams. Most remarkable of all, they are systematically pulled down every 20 years and rebuilt; alongside each of the main shrines there is a vast, empty rectangular space which will

be used for the buildings that will be put up next time.

This process is said to have taken place, with a few exceptions, every 20 years since the seventh century. The last occasion, the 60th, was in 1973, and the next will be in 1993. The expense is considerable, and it is one more example of the extraordinary element of continuity through the centuries of Japanese life.

Also in central Japan, and representing a very different aspect of Japanese history, is Himeji castle, west of Osaka, which must be one of the striking military buildings ever put up. To a western visitor, it has a fantastic character which outdoes any Bavarian or Rhineland Schloss.

There are several castles in Japan, dating from the period of civil war which led to the establishment of the Tokugawa shogunate at the beginning of the 17th century. But whereas those in Osaka and Nagoya are reconstructions in concrete which have been put up in this century, Himeji is still as it was first built, in wood.

It is known as Himeji-jo, or white heron castle, because with the five stories of its main tower and its three smaller towers, it gives the impression of a bird poised for flight.

It is first visible from the train, standing out like a high-rise building from the feudal period. Once across the moat and through the outer walls, one winds one's way through extensive gardens to reach the central keep.

Himeji has been the site of a castle, built to dominate the surrounding plain, since the 14th century. The present building dates from 1601.



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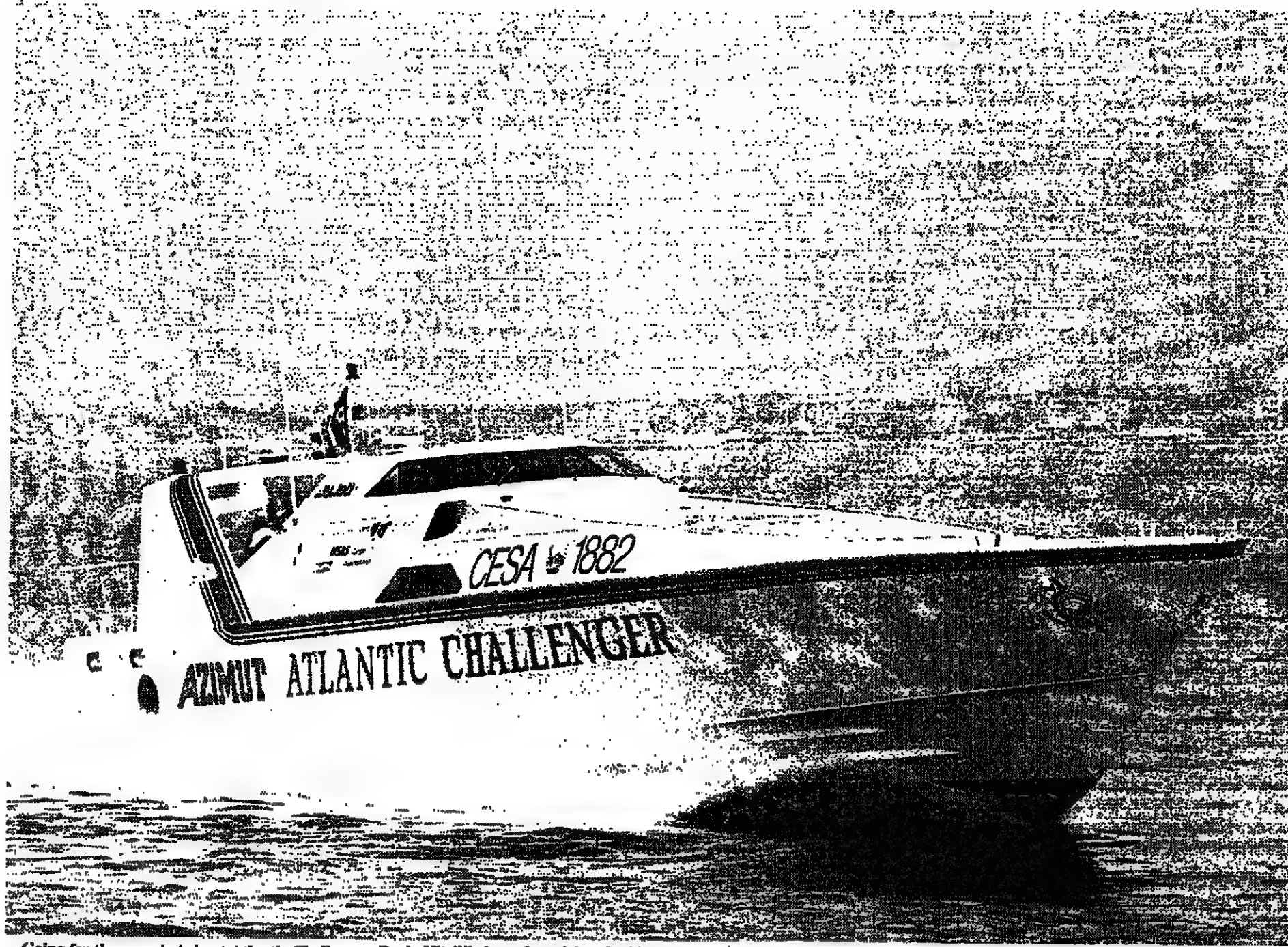
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An American millionaire is the latest to lead an assault on the Atlantic crossing record



Going for the record: Azimut Atlantic Challenger, Paolo Vitelli's hope for seizing the blue riband trophy, undergoing trials off Viareggio, in Italy (Photograph: Stephen Markeson)

A rich man's quest for the blue riband

Winthrop P. Rockefeller is a 39-year-old millionaire with a wife, three children and a considerable sense of adventure. Early next month, he will pay a reported \$1 million (£265,000) to play his part as the requisite fare-paying passenger aboard the Azimut Atlantic Challenger, a 100-foot long, high-tensile aluminium, water-jet powered monohull speedboat which will attempt to seize the blue riband for the fastest Atlantic crossing.

In return for his contribution to the total budget of some \$5 million, Rockefeller, a member of the American dynasty and an international yachtsman, can expect to be buffeted around to the point of screaming if the Challenger reaches its projected top speed of 53 knots. Other equally wealthy and foolhardy men were vying for this dubious privilege, but in the end it was Rockefeller who was chosen by his long-time friend, Paolo Vitelli, Azimut's owner.

If all goes according to plan, the Challenger, constructed at the Azimut-Beattini yard in Viareggio on Italy's Ligurian Sea coast, will warm up from an expected 30 knots soon after the start off Ambrose Light in New York Harbour, to her projected top speed by the time she reaches the finish at Bishop Rock, off the Scilly Isles, some three days and 3,000 miles later.

One man who knows exactly how bad Rockefeller will be feeling by then, is Britain's Dag Pike, aged 55, a grandfather from Strow in Gloucestershire, who will navigate the Azimut Challenger; he did the same on both of Richard Branson's Virgin Atlantic Challengers, the first of which broke up and sank some three hours from Bishop Rock and the second of which, in 1985, set a new record of 3 days, 8 hours and 31 minutes.

The possibility of hitting driftwood, whales, semi-submerged containers which have fallen from

ships, or icebergs is bad enough by day but, despite a lifetime at sea that saw him shipwrecked three times, Pike said: "At night it is really scary. You cannot see anything and those nights last time were the most frightening of my life. But I feel the risk is acceptable. Last time I was doing it for the glory; this time I am doing it for the glory and the money. After all, I've got to live."

There are five other crew members, including the skipper, Cesare Piori, a former racing driver. Pike added: "The other guys are on a high but I'm apprehensive because I know it's like spending three days at the dentist. There are times when you want to scream. You can spend five minutes making up your mind just to push a button because you have found a slightly comfortable position and when you try to eat you are likely to end up with your fingers in your mouth and the sandwich up your nose."

Branson has never officially been

credited with the blue riband, which was inspired by the colour of the Order of the Garter. Nor has he been awarded the four-foot high gold and silver trophy that goes with it, which was donated in 1933 by Harold K. Hales, an English MP, who ultimately met his demise in a rowing boat.

Branson broke the record, but he refuelled three times in the process, which is against the conditions that must be met to win the trophy back from its present resting place, the US Maritime Museum on Long Island. The blue riband is still held by the American liner, United States, which completed the East-West passage in 3 days 10 hours and 40 minutes in 1952.

Challenger, which is powered by four 18-cylinder CRM diesel engines linked in pairs through a MAAG gearbox to drive the twin Riva Calzoni water jets, will carry 82 tons of fuel — twice her own weight — and Pike never believed

she would come on to the plane with such a load. But she can and does and neither the Italians nor Pike believe she will fail, accidents apart.

There is another West-East challenge pending, from Tom Gentry, the Hawaiian American millionaire, in Gentry Eagle, but his craft will need to refuel en route and the competition has been airily dismissed by Vitelli because of that. While they might break the record, he does not believe they can claim the blue riband.

The Challenger will be sailed to the start point in New York, where Pike will command his five-day advance weather reports from the Meteorological Office at Bracknell, Berkshire, before announcing a start day. "The weather is the key to everything," he said.

There is one British sponsor, ASAS Cargo International, who are paying around £150,000 to transport an empty box.

Steve Acteson

BOXING

Silence is broken by the man driven by fear

From Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent, Atlantic City

If the way Mike Tyson and Michael Spinks conducted themselves at the official launching yesterday of the "Once and for All" the "mitty gritty" at Atlantic City, "was a reflection of the way they would perform on Monday night at the Convention Hall, Michael Spinks would come out on top. Their behaviour was a lot like their boxing style: Tyson unswerving in his refusal to give and Spinks scatty, confusing and clever."

Apart from Donald Trump, the multi-millionaire hotelier, only Spinks put a cheerful face on a Press conference that one and feared would be embarrassing, at the least, after the row between Tyson and his manager, Bill Cayton.

One would have imagined that the top table had been invited to a Munster's tea party rather than to celebrate the richest event in sport, grossing over \$100 million, out of which Tyson will make a million dollars for every year of his age — he is 21 — and Spinks \$13.8 million. Even the five gate of \$13 million is a world record for any stadium.

No one talked to anyone. The promoter, Don King, could not talk to Cayton because earlier in the week he had called him Satan. Spinks' manager, Butch Lewis, ignored King, as the promoter had said Tyson would chew Spinks up like raw meat. Cayton looked stonily ahead throughout the proceedings and Tyson's head fell lower and lower until it hit the table and he appeared to have fallen asleep.

When the questions started to flow from the television viewers, Tyson replied in short bursts, giving the answer, "I just want to win" to every question. At one point he lost his temper, fumed at a viewer's question and pushed the microphone away in disgust, refusing to answer questions of tactics.

Spinks, on the other hand, brought the house down with his self-deprecating manner, all the time giving the impression that

he was the man least likely to succeed. "Sure I have problems with all my opponents, because they are not co-operative," he said. "I am frightened. All my life, something has frightened me."

That was typical of the former unbeaten light heavyweight champion. His "herky-jerky" style of boxing gives the impression that he is running away because of fear. He even invents things to frighten himself. "It is something left over from my childhood days," he says.

Spinks recalls his days of fear and trembling in the streets of St Louis when he was "Bully" Billy Seltzer. He would come along and shout to me: "Come here, I'd run because I could not stand to be near him. He was so scary. Even his mother had a moustache."

"Any time my mother asked me to get corn bread, I took the long way round so I would not have to see his face. I hated to be afraid, but it was good corn bread."

Spinks makes no secret of his dislike for boxing. "Who wants to do this?" he said the other day in his Pleasantville gymnasium. "I want to win. I want to fight Tyson. I'm glad it's almost over. I'm looking forward to the next stage of my life." After the death of his fiancée, Sandra Massey, in a car crash, Spinks has always wanted to get out of the game to spend time with his seven-year-old daughter, Michelle.

However, his reluctance to be a hero should not be seen as a failing, rather as a means to developing nervous energy. As his veteran and highly respected trainer, Eddie Futch, says: "He's not a bull charger and he is not a bull fighter, but he's the job done. He's never lost. He'll win again." But first he must look on the face of a man with a neck like the Oval Gasmeter, as my colleague, John, says. Spinks observed: "It is a prospect a million times more daunting than Billy Seltzer."

Nelson's fighting talk

Atlantic City — Azumah Nelson, of Ghana, the man Barry McGuigan hopes to challenge for the World Boxing Council super-featherweight title, makes his first defence against Luis Suarez, of Texas, at the Trump Plaza Hotel here on Saturday (Srikumar Sen writes).

Suarez is not Nelson's first choice. The Ghanaian had hoped to defend against Tomas De Cruz, but the Brazilian preferred to take on McGuigan in Luton tomorrow.

Nelson was angry that he had not been given the kind of

recognition accorded to McGuigan. "It's because I am black and McGuigan is white," he said. "If I meet McGuigan I think I would kill him. The fight will not last more than six rounds. I don't care where I fight McGuigan, just make the money right."

His manager, Dr Oko Kwesikwe, said the champion wanted to meet McGuigan but the Irishman's manager, Frank Warren, told him he would wait to see how Nelson looked against Suarez before putting McGuigan in.

RACING

Red Glow gallop proves pointer to Blakes Son

A gallop last weekend provided the clue to the outcome of the Noel Cannon Memorial Trophy at Salisbury yesterday.

Blakes Son worked well at Newmarket on Saturday with Geoffrey Wragg's classic colt, Red Glow, and the son of Blakeney opened his account in good style here, beating George Hobart by two lengths.

Imperial Friend had looked well-handicapped, but was friendly in the betting and finished fourth. Her trainer John Hill said: "She did not like the firm ground and if it had been as firm as this yesterday I would have taken her out."

Blakes Son, placed in his four previous starts this season, has been struggling to find his right distance but this race provided the answer. He clearly needs a mile and to be ridden up with the pace.

Martinsosky landed a gamble

Filicaia causes upset

Pastoral Jem, beaten only a short head by speedy northern juvenile Barrys Gamble at Royal Ascot last week, started 11-4 on to beat four rivals in the Winkley Stakes at Ripon yesterday but finished third.

The Merrick Francis-trained favourite was never able to get on terms with the leaders and trailed last, beaten eight lengths by the winner, Filicaia.

Nigel Tinkler, saddling his eleventh winner of the season, said: "This must be the first time that a husband and wife have won different races in less than 24 hours."

The Malton trainer rode Foot Patrol to victory at Kempton on

from 4-1 to 9-4 in the EBF Southampton Maiden Stakes to give trainer Bill Wightman his first juvenile success of the season.

"I've only got six two-year-olds but I'm happy with them," said the Upton trainer.

Last year this race was won by Warrington, who went on to prove himself the best two-year-old colt in training but nothing like that is expected of Martinsosky.

"I've been thinking of him as just an ordinary two-year-old and would be glad just to win another race with him. On the other hand, he looks a nice colt and could be better than I thought," Wightman said.

Taffy Thomas always looked confident on the winner, setting him happily in third place before taking over entering the last quarter mile to score by three lengths from Super Neon.

Wednesday night and Filicaia was ridden yesterday by his wife, Kim.

"I think Filicaia ran a little green today but expect to run her at the Newmarket July Meeting," the trainer added. The winner is owned by Don Enrico Incisa, who trains Foot Patrol.

Lochonica and On The Record, the two least fancied runners in the market for the Norman Wells Memorial Trophy, occupied the first two places with Lochonica making

geometrically every yard of the running to beat the fast-finishing On The Record by four lengths.

FISHING

Hard task facing NRA's creators

By Conrad Voss Bark

The new National River Society (NRS) is lumbering into a focal state. The birth is due sometime next year, provided arguments between environmental and agricultural departments in the Government as to who does what and how, are resolved in the coming months.

The authority, which does not yet legally exist, has already appointed a chief administrator: David Renshaw, now based temporarily in an office in the Department of the Environment. Renshaw is said to be a tactful man, having had a great deal to do with clearing up the mess after the Liverpool riots. He will need all his tact and firmness in trying to clear up the mess that farmers and others are making of our rivers.

Reported pollution of rivers by industry, sewage and farm effluent has increased by about one-and-a-half times in the past eight or nine years, and farm pollution has doubled.

The aim of the NRS is to take under public control the responsibility for water quality. This will split the water authorities in half, leaving the rump — which deals solely with water supply — to be privatized and make a profit from selling water. A great advantage will be that we shall no longer have to call them authorities. They will become something like, for example, South West Water Company, no longer an authority, but a limited company.

Fishermen have yet to be convinced that they will be better off under the NRA's rule. There are, however, some encouraging signs. After an enormous amount of pressure from the National Anglers' Council

and the Country Landowners' Association, and some cogent arguments in the House of Lords from Lords Moran and Mason, the government minister, Lord Cairncross, has accepted the principle that the rates now payable on fisheries to local authorities should go to the body responsible for fisheries, which in future will be the NRA.

Fishery rates nationwide do not amount to very much, perhaps £3-4 million or so. But at least they will help to keep the NRA happy for the time being, until local rates are replaced by a poll tax; then they will have to think of some other way to get the money.

One guess is that to have a reasonable amount of income from fisheries — "after all they use the rivers so they might as well pay a proper price for it" — the NRA will put a levy on clubs and fishery owners and treble or quadruple the amount now paid in fishery license fees by issuing a national fishing license that will cover the whole of England and Wales.

All this still has to be decided. In the meantime, the 10 water authorities in England and Wales are busy allocating staff to become their regional headquarters staff of the NRA. In the south west for example, Gordon Bielby, an environmental specialist, has been nominated as the regional general manager of the South West NRA and the water authority (SWWA) suggests the NRA unit should have four departments with headquarters at Exeter and a local office in Bodmin. The NRA Advisory Committee, under Lord Crickhowell, will be studying these and other proposals sometime this summer.

GOLF

Aston welcomes world

By Patricia Davies

Golfers from Australia, New Zealand, Zimbabwe and Hong Kong will converge on the less exotic locations of Little Aston and Sutton Coldfield today for the Midland Open amateur championship.

The field, of more than a hundred, will play a round on each of the two courses and then tomorrow the top 40, and ties, will complete a further 36 holes at Little Aston to decide the title.

Carl Sureson, the defending

champion, from Ladbrook Park in Warwickshire, will be attempting to repeat the foreign challenge and that posed by players from rather closer to home, including Gary Wolstenholme, recently capped by England for the first time.

Wolstenholme, of the Leicestershire club, plays nearly as much attention to his bi-rhythm charts as he does to his yardages, and must hope that the vibes will be right for him to repeat his victory in this event two years ago.

GLIDING

Conditions baffle all but bravest

By a Correspondent

After a day of numerous outlandings in the few fields spread among Finland's numerous lakes and forests, pilots were faced with equally pressing, but vastly different, decisions on the eighth day of the European Championships at Ryskylä.

Clouds and rain forced a change in the original 350-mile task for the open class on the start grid, to a 300-mile triangle — with the other classes adjusted proportionately to 315 miles (15m class) and 220 miles (standard class).

A first-time visitor to the airfield at Ryskylä could be forgiven for being surprised at the vehicles in the safety park. As well as the usual fire and first-aid vehicles, there is a speedboat on a low-loader twin-launch lorry. With a local choir of trees or water to land in, the latter is preferable.

There were several immediate landings back on site by machines downed by rain. The Dane, Andersen, the open-class leader, Schuit, the Dutchman, who is placed well in the 15m class, and Jed Edyvane, of Britain, in the same class, all asked for relights.

The ground is virtually unlandable for about 15 miles around the site. To avoid risky "glide-outs" to unprepared landing areas, several pilots called it a day immediately, after rushing into the front of a line of thunder rain to photograph the first turning-point, then returned to the airfield.

These pilots included Ralph Jones, the experienced Briton, and Edyvane, after his relight. Others, including the three Britons, May (open), Sheard (15m) and Lysakowski (standard), skillfully kept airborne just behind the storm front, hoping to find the elusive gap that sometimes develops for a few minutes. Had any of them managed that, he could possibly have leapt up the class placings by adding distance beyond, but they were not successful.

Aleksandr Silvanovich, of the Soviet Union, dived straight into the storm and somehow found a way through for a 15m-class win on the day at 200 miles and 1,000 points.

The French now lead all three classes.

RESULTS: Open including day eight: 1. Silvanovich, 2. 1670m, 3. Andersen (Den), 7.142, 4. Chervinsky (F), 7.021. British: 7. May, 6.097; 12. A Jones, 5.028. 15m: 1. Lysakowski (F), 6.566; 2. Sheard (UK), 6.566; 3. Jones (UK), 6.566. Standard: 1. Lysakowski (F), 6.566; 2. Sheard (UK), 6.566; 3. Jones (UK), 6.566. British: 24. Lysakowski, 4.407.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Stephenson injury stacks up the odds

From Keith Macklin, Brisbane

Faced with yet another injury to front-line player, Malcolm Reilly, the Great Britain coach, today confronts odds that would have confounded Eloy Flynn in *The Burma Campaign*.

Already reeling from the injuries which have taken out a complete back division, Reilly yesterday announced that David Stephenson, his centre, has joined Andy Gregory, the scrum half, and the forward, Andy Platt, in a fight against the clock to be fit for Tuesday's second Whitbread Trophy international against Australia in Brisbane.

Stephenson, Britain's one remaining experienced international centre, damaged his shoulder at Toowoomba on Wednesday, and is not expected to be fit until next week. Reilly, a full back, and Elly Hanny needed at loose forward, Reilly

has only the two Widnes replacements, centres, Darren Wright and Andy Currier, to juggle with as partner to the winger-turned-centre, Phil Ford.

Both Wright and Currier play against Wide Bay at Gympie on the Queensland coast tomorrow, with Currier still getting over his journey after flying in on Wednesday. Reilly has had to include several members of the international squad for the trip to Gympie.

Gill and Powell, who has only missed two Tour games, are in the team, and Offiah and Loughlin are the substitutes, and Reilly must be praying that there are no further injuries to bedevil his preparations for

QUICK START: A. Williams, C. Gibson, D. Wright, A. Currier, H. Gill, M. Ford, P. Hume, B. Case, P. Groves, H. Waddell, K. Farbank, J. Power, R. Gregory, Substitutes: M. Offiah, P. Loughlin.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Tour match
11.0-6.30, 98 over maximum
PENNSYLVANIA v Cambridge
11.0-6.30, 98 over maximum
PENNSYLVANIA v Cambridge

Other match
11.0-6.30
LORDS: MCC v Netherlands
GROVE: MCC v Netherlands

OTHER SPORT
ATHLETICS: Metcalf's Challenge (Birmingham)
CYCLING: Isle of Man week
GOLF: Trusthouse Forte PGA Seniors

TRY THIS

Paul Maher's suggestion for a sporting day out

FYLDIE INTERNATIONAL SAND AND LAND YACHTING EVENT:
Racing on the beach at St Anne's is the scene this weekend for the Fyldie International, an event that rounds off the British championship year. Two types of yacht will speed over an elongated, diamond-shaped course, between two and four miles in length, from the north foreshore to Sutton Square S Gate at Blackpool.

It is empty sailing on wheels, but differs in that the wind pushes the water-borne craft while sand yachts sail up to three or four times faster than the wind, reaching speeds of 60 to 80mph depending on conditions and the type of yacht. The St Anne's beach is one of the best in Europe for this sport and ideal conditions are such this weekend that the sea will be about a mile from

land giving extra width to the course.

The last remaining places in the British team to compete in the European championships in West Germany are up for selection, but St Anne's, Lancashire (Tel: 0253 722584). Racing begins on both days at 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. tomorrow and 3 p.m. on Sunday.

There is a council car park adjacent to the clubhouse and spectators is free. For further information, contact Mike Hampton at 0509 842292.

BOWLS

Chance to shine for Hampshire

By Gordon Allan

Hampshire will make certain of qualifying for the quarter-finals of the NatWest Bank Middleton Cup if they beat Sussex at Freeton, Brighton, tomorrow.

Their probable opponents on July 23 are Somerset and Gloucestershire, who do not play their final section matches until next weekend, should also qualify. The other sections are less predictable, but Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Norfolk and Berkshire could advance.

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HOCKEY

Canada mount a challenge for the Welsh

By Joyce Whitehead

Canada's women's team, on a tour of Europe, take on Wales in matches at Bristol University tomorrow and Sunday.

At the Four Nations' tournament in West Germany last weekend, the Canadians finished last, their defeat including a 3-1 reverse against Great Britain, who gained their first victory in winning the tournament with a victory over the Olympic second seeds, Australia.

Wales, therefore, will provide an interesting contest.

The Welsh have recently had a week on the Continent, playing all who were available in their senior and under-21 squads, their final squad eventually overcoming Belgium 2-1.

Wales will be out in strength this weekend, with just one absentee, their second goalkeeper, Helen Morgan. It gives Andrea Evans her chance, while Joanne Ball and Mary Richardson are in the squad for the first time.

WALLES: L. Lovegrove, A. Evans, L. Walters, S. Crowther (captain), K. Rodmond, F. McCann, S. Jones, C. Thomas, K. Williams, H. Morgan, J. Ball, A. Jones, M. Richardson, H. Thompson.

The Olympic 1,500m final could be a true 'mile of the century', as Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent, writes

Certainly no star spangled line-up

By Pat Butcher

The first Mobil grand prix meeting of the season in western Europe, promises plenty of top-class competition in the 1,500m race. In stark contrast to the match in Birmingham tonight between an England team and a United States squad, which appears to have been selected by the time-honoured process of going into the street in Indianapolis (the headquarters of the American federation) and giving an air

Belfast clash

Ingrid Kristiansen, the world 10,000 metres champion, meets Liz McColgan, Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion, and Angela Tooty, world cross-country silver medal winner, over 3,000 metres at the Girobank Games in Belfast on Monday.

ticket to the first 30 blocks who walk west.

The primary reason for this is that most of the United States athletes who feel they have a chance of making the Olympic team are staying home to train, although Carl Lewis is long jumping in Louisiana. After all, these are the Americans who cannot sell their talent to promoters elsewhere.

Emmit King and Jack Pierce are the only Americans who pass muster. King has run 10.04sec for 100 metres this season, and should test Linford Christie's longevity about Stadio Olimpico. Pierce, fourth in the world 110 metres hurdles championship in Rome, will provide an interesting challenge for Tony Jarrett, since Jon Ridgeon, second in Rome, has dropped out with a recurrence of the virus which he felt contributed to his losing to Jarrett, the European junior champion, last month.

For the rest, the English will test each other. Steve Cram running in the 1,500m, and against Tony Morrison and David Sharpe. But Sebastian Coe seems to have chosen far sterner opposition in Lausanne. Coe races 800 metres against Abel Bile, who won the 44.42sec in Sweden last Sunday. Among other world class athletes competing in Lausanne are Sergei Bubka, fresh from his marvellous 6.05 metres pole vault record, and Stefa Kostadinova.

A race to quicken the world's pulse

It is the right of succeeding generations to challenge the presumptions of their predecessors, which is undoubtedly why we get a "mile of the century" each decade.

In three months' time, the Olympic Games could provide another such hyperbolic claim, modified to accommodate the slightly shorter 1,500 metres: the metric mile of the century. For, at the moment, the Olympic final is due to feature four men who have risen well above the middle-distance pack: Sebastian Coe, the defending champion; Steve Cram, the holder of the world record for the mile, and Said Aouita, among whose many exploits is the 1,500 metres world record.

Cram and Bile running in the Dream Mile in Oslo a week tomorrow will set more than their own pulses racing. It will act as a taste, as could tonight's 800 metres in Lausanne, where Bile is due to meet Coe.

Coe must take pride of place in the prognostications. He is already unprecedented in Olympic annals, being the only man to defend successfully a 1,500 metres title. On his own admission, one of the prerequisites for Olympic victory is "wanting to win it badly enough".

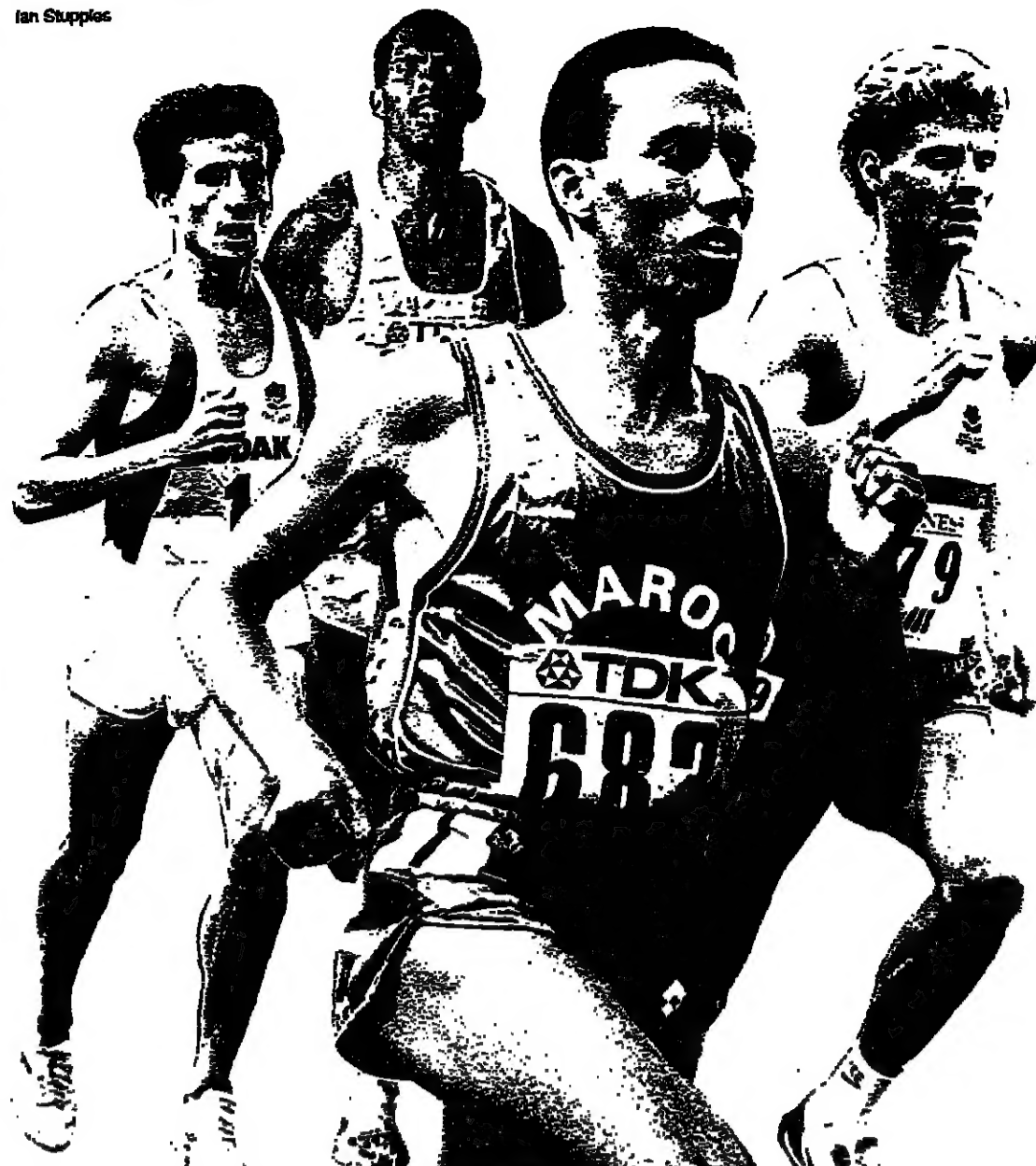
The satisfaction from his massive accomplishment in doing so twice could cast doubt on a third win, particularly in view of his relative inactivity over the last 18 months, and the burgeoning challenge from the others. But, the advantage he enjoys now, despite his 31 years (four more than Cram and Aouita, and six more than Bile), is that he knows exactly what is required.

"This time, it will be hard, harder than it was in Moscow, and certainly harder than it was in Los Angeles. But if all goes well, I fancy my chances, because I've noticed very little in training that tells me that I'm any less equipped to win a title than I was four years ago."

Coe beat Cram into second place on that occasion. Despite an injury in the preceding months, which must have considerably reduced Cram's chances in Los Angeles, it was, until his world championship débâcle last year, the biggest setback of his career. His reaction provides a clue to his own impetus now.

"If you can't win the event which you see yourself as being best at, then it obviously would be a disappointment. The 1,500 metres is the one I want to win. I'm coming off a bad year. I was badly beaten in the world

Jan Stupjes



Four masters of the mile: Sebastian Coe, Abdi Bile, Said Aouita, and Steve Cram

championships, and I want to make sure that doesn't happen again. "I want Said Aouita to be there. I want Seb Coe to be there, and I want Bile to be there. Because it's going to bring out the best in Steve Cram, and the best in Steve Cram is the only way I'm going to win a gold medal."

The best in Steve Cram was on display when he beat Aouita to set that marvellous 1,500 metres world record in Nice in July, 1985. But Aouita broke that record a few weeks later, and he still has it.

The Moroccan won the 1984

Olympic 5,000 metres, and won again at the same distance in the world championships last year. He holds that world record (among others) too. "I've done everything at 5,000 metres, such that I'm beginning to hate the event. The 1,500 metres has always been my favourite distance, and I'm definitely doing it in Seoul."

That remains to be seen, and despite Aouita having only lost one race (and that in his first stepchase in eight years) out of 49 since he was beaten by Cram in Nice three years

ago, Cram would welcome him in the Olympic 1,500 metres.

"One thing that might go against him," Cram says, "is that he has run lots of fast times over 1,500 metres and the mile in the last three years, but he has not actually raced, as opposed to being paced. And racing and winning a championship like the Olympics is a lot more difficult."

Which leaves Bile. Barely noticed until that spectacular world title in Rome last year, which immediately made him the most famous man in

THE RACE LEADERS

Said Aouita (Morocco)

Born November 2, 1960.
1984 5,000m Olympic champion; 1987 5,000m world champion.
Personal bests: 800m: 1:44.38 (1985); 1,500m: 3:29.46 (world record, 1985); Mile: 3:46.76 (1987); 2,000m: 4:50.81 (world record, 1987); Two miles: 8:13.45 (world best, 1987); 5,000m: 12:58.39 (world record, 1987).

Abdi Bile (Somalia)

Born December 28, 1962.
1,500m world champion.
Personal bests: 800m: 1:44.42 (1988); 1,500m: 3:21.71 (1987); Mile: 3:50.75 (1987).

Sebastian Coe (GB)

Born September 23, 1956.
1980 and 1984 Olympic 1,500m champion; 1986 European 800m champion.
Personal bests: 800m: 1:41.73 (world record, 1981); 1,000m: 2:12.18 (world record, 1981); 1,500m: 3:29.77 (1986); Mile: 3:47.33 (1981).

Steve Cram (GB)

Born October 14, 1960.
1982 and 1986 European 1,500m champion; 1982 and 1986 1,500m world champion; 1983 1,500m world champion; 1986 Commonwealth 800m.
Personal bests: 800m: 1:42.88 (1985); 1,000m: 2:12.88 (1985); 1,500m: 3:23.67 (1985); Mile: 3:46.32 (world record, 1985); 2,000m: 4:51.29 (1985).

Somalia, Bile's strength, apart from his age, is his attitude.

In contrast to Coe's urbaneness, Cram's hermeticism, and Aouita's volatility, Bile is so laid back as to provoke the fear that he will topple over backwards when he is not running. He has a thoroughly refreshing attitude to racing. "It doesn't matter who's there, Aouita or new ones. You do your best, and if you beat your fourth, you have to be glad about that."

That belief a talent which can only be better realized, as Coe says, "Abdi's young. He can only get fitter, stronger, faster." The immediate corollary to that was Bile's 800 metres personal best of 1:41.73, 44.42sec in Sweden last Sunday, following a winter with more than his fair share of injuries.

That, though, is still the slowest two-lap time of the quartet - Coe's formidable world record is 1:41.73. Cram's best is 1:42.88 and Aouita's 1:44.38. But, as Aouita said last week, "Having the fastest time means nothing when you go into a major championship."

So do not bet against Bile off a slow early pace. But, then again, do not bet against any of them, as Coe says, "There are no favourites for Olympic titles. Some people have more chances than others, but anybody that tells you that there is a bookies' favourite for an Olympic title, take the money from them."

FOOTBALL: WHILE LOBANSOVSKIY FINDS SUCCESS IN ANONYMITY, UNITED GIVE HUGHES THE RED CARPET TREATMENT

Spartan life for Soviet side built for the 21st century

From Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent
Munich

The Soviet Union, the unknown quantity before the start of the European championship, will largely remain so after they have ended it tomorrow in the final. But for their first appearance so far in the tournament, the presence of their squad and supporters has been inconspicuous.

Rather than staying in luxurious modern hotels, Valeri Lobansovskiy has chosen spartan sports halls as the most suitable accommodation for his team. Rather than relaxing at venues for several days, they have flown into small local airports less than 24 hours before their respective fixtures.

They did not arrive in Frankfurt for the tie against England until Saturday morning. They will not leave their camp in Stuttgart and travel to their most significant destination for almost 30 years, until this afternoon. They are to return immediately after the final.

Nor does the face of their manager reveal any secrets during a match. Gripped by the nervous tension that led to "heart problems" earlier this year, Lobansovskiy persistently rocks back and forth on his seat, but his features are otherwise motionless. Even in victory, he is as impassive as granite.



Yet his success cannot be disguised. A native of Kiev, he won a League and a Cup medal with Dynamo as a left winger in his youth, before re-building the fortunes of his city and country. For the past 14 years, he has largely controlled both.

Under him, Kiev have been champions seven times, claimed the Cup on five occasions, and lifted the European Cup Winners' Cup in 1975. The Soviet Union, though they have collected no trophies, have won deep respect, particularly during the World Cup finals in Mexico two years ago.

Many regarded them as potentially the strongest side.

Forest visit Anfield

Liverpool have been drawn at home to Nottingham Forest in the quarter-final of the Football League's Centenary Trophy competition, the other matches being Newcastle United against Wimbledon, Manchester United versus Everton and Queens Park Rangers against Arsenal. The ties will be played on August 29, 30 or 31 with semi-finals on the week of September 19 and the final at Villa Park on October 2.

Forest and Liverpool featured in a classic game at Anfield in April when the champions won 3-0 to avenge an earlier 2-1 League defeat - Brian Clough's determination to break his team's curse was rewarded by his friends with their adventurous approach despite the scoreline.

Azeglio Vicini, the manager of Italy, thought they played "the football of the next century". Lobansovskiy has since altered their style, albeit marginally, by reinforcing the defensive security and using the speed of his forwards to counter-attack.

He is responsible for moving the influential Zavarov from the forward line back into mid-field, where he roams freely and dangerously. He persuaded Prossvor, who two years ago broke the domestic goal-scoring record which had stood for 34 years, to join his club and squad.

Lobansovskiy, aged 49, is in charge of the Soviet Union for the third time. On each occasion he has selected a large proportion of his line-up from Kiev. The idea failed a dozen years ago, and both he and his system were rejected. Since restored, Lobansovskiy and his team are about to leave their hiding place, temporarily anyway.

The insistence on the Football League's Centenary Trophy competition, which will provide further evidence of the League's determination to break its curse in television coverage of football. The League has already demonstrated this on the domestic front by the negotiations with British Satellite Broadcasting (BSB), and the same philosophy is discernible in this decision, which in many ways is a surprising one. Chrysalis, who began as a record company, has been diversifying into television but in sport they have no track record except as a facility company.

"They are a well-funded company, they have the most up-to-date equipment including a new outside-broadcast truck, and editing facilities in two centres which is important if we are going down the route of one main match and the highlights of nine other games in the one programme," the Football League spokesman, Lee Walker, said.

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Hughes: anticipating renewed success at Old Trafford

United go past £40m for Hughes

By Ian Ross

Martin Edwards, the Manchester United chairman, yesterday disclosed that his club's forlorn attempts to wrest the Football League championship from Middlesbrough has cost £40 million.

After ending the Mark Hughes saga by announcing that the Wales forward had decided to end his ill-fated spell with Barcelona by returning to Old Trafford, Edwards said United had spent £40 million on players in eight years. But Edwards swiftly emphasized that while less than half that sum had been recouped in sales, Alex Ferguson, the manager, would still be allowed to mount further bids in an attempt to transform Brian's glamour club into its most successful.

"We are in the running should any player we want become available. We are in the red already but we would not let that stop us buying," he said.

Ferguson who has now spent £4 million compared to the £10 million by Ron Atkinson, his predecessor, said he was conscious of the need to build a side in a realistic financial framework. "I have to look to improve my team but I also want to balance the books. A manager must make signings as if he was spending his own money," he said.

For the return of Hughes, who joined Barcelona in a £1.8 million deal two years ago, Ferguson faced stiff opposition from Juventus, Bologna, Everton, and Rangers. "It was the pull of United which was decisive," Hughes, who has signed a five-year contract, said. "I am a more experienced player and a more mature person than when I left. I feel that United have successful times ahead."

The transfer fee is believed to be in the region of £1.6 million taking Ferguson's close season spending to £2.35 million following the signing of Jim Leighton, the Scotland goalkeeper from Aberdeen.

Ferguson will now turn his attention to Paul Gascoigne, Newcastle United's England under-21 international midfielder player, who wishes to leave St James' Park. But Gascoigne's asking price of £2 million will prove prohibitive unless Ferguson can finance a deal by selling at least one of his unsettled players.

Chris Wright, the chief executive of Chrysalis, said: "This contract will be the cornerstone on which we can build a leading sports production company."

Logie's exquisite form is a delight

By Jack Bailey

FENNERS: Oxford and Cambridge Universities, with six wickets in hand, are 341 runs behind West Indians.

The West Indians enjoyed this festive occasion hugely. Barring practice on Fenner's in the sunshine for those whose chances on this tour have been limited or whose form has been uneasy was the order of the day.

With the notable exception of Richardson, for whom runs remain as scarce as car parking spaces in Cambridge, the objective was achieved. The West Indians displayed their prowess, to the delight of a well-filled ground, and made their 355 runs from 93 overs. In the remaining 50 minutes, Patterson and Co. reduced the Universities to 14 for four wickets, which really was rather unkind of them.

It was not quite a case of the West Indians in full flow, except when Logie was at the crease.

The early demise of Greenidge - this was no occasion for a big innings by Greenidge - and then Richardson caused a gasp or two and Hooper, Arthurton and Williams, though playing cultured innings in their different ways, were relatively circumspect in their approach.

Logie, however, is an especially rich vein at present, and if he keeps his ever apparent simpler pastime, I have not been there to see it. In this form, the little man is an exquisite timer and perserver of the ball, and on this occasion, statistics do not do him justice.

Logie reached his 57 from 42 balls from which he stroked no less than 13 fours. In only 48 minutes at the wicket he delivered the high mark of the day. You could sense the disappointment in the crisp morning air when he became the first of four victims to fall to the slow left arm of Perry, who with his captain, Atherton, provided the nub of the Universities' attack.

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O'Brien, a member of the Minor Counties team that beat Hampshire in the Benson and Hedges Cup in 1981, paid particular tribute to Barry Wood. The sometime controversial former England player, one of the game's great one-day exponents, won the NatWest Match award for his contribution of two wickets and 40 runs. "A lot of people have a lot of things to say about Barry, not always good and often misinformed. But he has been a major influence in our side. When we were getting excited on Wednesday, it was Barry who kept our feet on the floor. He might be 45, but he is as fit as players half his age."

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YACHTING

Bengal III strikes an early blow for Japan

From Malcolm McKee
Luleå, Sweden

Bengal III, formerly Australia III but now owned by Masaharu Kobayashi of Bengal, won the first race of the 12-metre world championship yesterday for Australian skipper, Skip Lessman.

She finished almost a minute and a half ahead of her rival from Fremantle. Kookaburra III, in a short, sharp race that had the crew of the 10 Twelves working hard, despite light winds.

A feature of the regatta is the so-called short, Luleå Course, comprising five wide, windward legs of barely two miles each, made necessary by the confined waters between the many islands in this corner of the Gulf of Bothnia.

There is not room to set a course of traditional America's Cup length with its opening beat of over three miles. The tight course sets a premium on good, not to say brilliant, starts and tactics rather than pure speed. The racing cars on a narrow, twisty track. There is also a considerable element of luck in breaking five of the pack.

Both Britain's Skipper, Warden-Owen and the great master himself, Dennis Connor, suffered from poor starts and could never recover, despite having reputedly fast boats. Warden-Owen, in Crusader 88, had a wretched start and held eighth place at the first mark. He worked up to sixth but dropped a place on the final beat to the German boat, Maud of 88, skippered by Uwe Marcks.

Connor fared even worse, trailing for most of the race at ninth and finishing last.

RESULTS: 1 Bengal III (Japan), Skip Lessman; 2 Kookaburra III (Australia), Peter Groom; 3 New Sweden (Sweden), Ole Johansson; 4 Hopper Darius (Denmark), Valdemar; 5 Maud (Germany), Uwe Marcks; 6 Maud of 88 (WGL), Uwe Marcks.

Home with an hour to spare

Dennis Doyle's Moonlander took line honours at the end of the Cork Dry Gin Round Ireland race yesterday almost an hour ahead of Woodchester Challenge, skippered by Dickie Gnomes, but more than a day outside her record for the 702-mile event.

Last night, handspun bonhomie looked set to go to Liam Shanahan's class four entry, Lightning.

CRICKET

FENNERS: Oxford and Cambridge Universities, with six wickets in hand, are 341 runs behind West Indians.

The West Indians enjoyed this festive occasion hugely. Barring practice on Fenner's in the sunshine for those whose chances on this tour have been limited or whose form has been uneasy was the order of the day.

With the notable exception of Richardson, for whom runs remain as scarce as car parking spaces in Cambridge, the objective was achieved. The West Indians displayed their prowess, to the delight of a well-filled ground, and made their 355 runs from 93 overs. In the remaining 50 minutes, Patterson and Co. reduced the Universities to 14 for four wickets, which really was rather unkind of them.

It was not quite a case of the West Indians in full flow, except when Logie was at the crease.

The early demise of Greenidge - this was no occasion for a big innings by Greenidge - and then Richardson caused a gasp or two and Hooper, Arthurton and Williams, though playing cultured innings in their different ways, were relatively circumspect in their approach.

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Boyd stretches out on his birthday

Kevin Boyd celebrated his 22nd birthday yesterday with another athletic performance at the impressive ESO Open championships at East Kilbride (a Special Correspondent writes).

In the heats of the men's 400m freestyle, Boyd, who stretches to 6ft 7in, was the fastest qualifier, with a time of 2:49sec, ahead of Scottish international, Campbell McNeill, of Paisley, second best with 4:08.28.

Boyd, from South Tyneside,

SWIMMING

Boyd stretches out on his birthday

who holds the British record for 400m free, 3:51.93, which he set at the world championships in Madrid in 1986, has taken a year out from his medical studies in order to prepare for the Seoul Olympics. He certainly looks on course to add to his Scottish 1,500m title, which he won here on Tuesday.

With the Anglo-Scott, Ian Campbell (Beckenham), not swimming at East Kilbride, the race for the men's 100m breaststroke title rests between the holder, Neil Houghton, of Aberdeen, and Gary Watson (Carnegie), who has the fastest qualifying time of 1:07.70.

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Curran going for second victory

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CYCLING

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Manchester Wheelers' team colleague, Peter Longbottom.

Curran has fully recovered from the severe stomach upset which forced him to retire after four days in the recent Milk Race.

Curran, who should be one of the strongest riders on the three summit climbs from Ramsey to the summit of Scafell, was third in last year's Manx International, but the winner on that occasion, Darryl Webster, has since turned professional, although is

on the island this week to encourage Alex, his younger brother.

Alex Webster rode a good time trial for fourth place, and today he is in the England youth squad of four 19-year-olds, described by the national coach, Doug Dailey, as the country's new wave of potential top talent.

Teams from France, Majorca, The Netherlands and Australia provide the international challenge to home riders.

Cup controversy lingers as appeals are quashed

By George Rae

The Jockey Club yesterday dismissed the appeals by the trainer, John Fellows, and Cash Asmusen, jockey, against the disqualification of Royal Gait in the £70,000 Ascot Gold Cup. Sadeem, trained by Guy Harwood and ridden by Greville Starkey, was confirmed the winner of the controversial race eight days ago.

Royal Gait, ridden by Asmusen, finished first, five lengths ahead of Sadeem, in a course-record time, but was found to have caused interference to the tiring El Conquistador, a stable companion of Sadeem, about two furlongs out.

El Conquistador unseated his rider, Tony Clark, and Asmusen was adjudged by the stewards to be guilty of careless riding. He was suspended for seven days and Royal Gait was placed last.

The three-man disciplinary committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Vestey, yesterday heard a series of submissions including those from Lord Alendale, chairman of the Ascot stewards, and legal representatives from Fellows, Asmusen, Starkey and Clark.

However, after almost three hours, the committee confirmed the decision of the Ascot stewards and upheld Asmusen's seven-day suspension, which begins tomorrow.

The disciplinary committee found Royal Gait had bumped Sadeem and then interfered with El Conquistador because there was insufficient room to pass between El Conquistador and Sadeem. The interference was the cause of Clark being unseated. They were also satisfied that El Conquistador did not come off a straight line until interference had taken place.

Fellows, who had approached the hearing "hopeful" of success, was deeply disappointed as he left. "There was very little new evidence introduced," said the French-based trainer. "I got the impression after a very short time that the committee wasn't particularly interested in changing the decision."

"The case turned on whether Asmusen was guilty of careless riding and I believe that is a very fine point to judge. The film was particularly bad, taken from an oblique angle and difficult to base a decision on. There was no straight camera view. They have confused the law with justice," he added.

Royal Gait's owner, Manuel Arias, also voiced his disappointment. "I like English racing," he said through his interpreter, "but not English racing justice. It is difficult to say whether I will have another runner here."

Whether Arias will pursue the matter further remains to be seen but his only recourse now is through the courts.

An unhappy Asmusen, apparently at a loss for something tactical to say, declined to comment.

Rarely has such an incident created so great a furor. Racing's specialist newspapers, *The Sporting Life* and *Racing Post*, have been inundated with letters, the majority of them siding with Royal Gait.

The feeling remains that justice has not been done and, rightly or wrongly, it will be difficult for the Jockey Club to dispel the impression that it has closed ranks to protect an imperfect decision.

Fellows's opinion about the inconclusiveness of the film is worth repeating. Surely if there were any shadow of doubt about Asmusen's

culpability, the verdict should have gone in Royal Gait's favour. However, while the controversy will burn brightly, racing is about horses and the authority of Royal Gait's performance cannot be erased.

Royal Gait's connections may have been deprived of the 1988 Ascot Gold Cup, but they do have undeniably the finest stayer in Europe. His day will come again.

Asmusen, who did not leave the Jockey Club until 5pm, missed the ride on Argumentative, six-length winner of the first race at Longchamp's evening meeting.

Man of Kent goes on scoring

By Ivo Tennant

Claude Lewis, 80 this summer, and in his sixtieth year when Kent as player, coach and county scorer, embodies principles that to some cricketers seem unreal as well as anachronistic.

When Lewis joined Kent in 1929, Lord Harris was president. His edicts were able to decree. Life was nothing if not orderly. Lewis would have not practice for four hours before bowling to members for a further two hours. If Kent were playing, he would work the scoreboard and clean boots and pads. On Saturdays, he would get a game — for his local club.

This constant net practice, no longer de rigueur, enabled Lewis to develop his left-arm orthodox spin and his quicker

ball, an in-swinging. "Dick" Freeman was nearing the end of his career and Lewis was given his opportunity, sometimes bowling in tandem with his great friend, Doug Wright.

In 1939 they took 187 wickets between them; Lewis 56, at 17.12 apiece. It was the season in which he took his first hat-trick and then was dropped after taking nine wickets in a match — to make way for an amateur. When war broke out, Lewis was at the peak of his career.

"The war inevitably changed the game, for the amateur was not the dominant figure he was before. I did not object if I was replaced — they knew how to treat people," he said.

After the war, during which he worked at Chatham dockyard as a joiner, Lewis became the county's coach, at Canterbury in the summer and at



Lewis set his own statistics. Etham indoor school in winter. There were long, lean years for Kent until, in the 1950s, Lewis came across three teenagers who were to form the nucleus of the best Kent side of his time: Brian Luckhurst, Alan Knott and Derek Underwood.

"Their ability was above average, even if I had seen several players with greater talents," he said. "The difference was their determination. Alan came in his shorts as a bowler, one moment spinning Freeman, the next Frank Tyson; Derek was recommended to me by Tony Lock as a batsman; and Brian was a talented slow left-arm bowler. I do not know what I did for them, since they played for England as wicketkeeper, bowler and batsman, respectively."

England captain sought advice

Those three became special friends and would seek advice from Lewis long after he ceased to be coach. So, too, did Mike Denness, who during his time as England captain would question him about tactics: "he was obtaining at first but became one of the best captains Kent ever had."

Frank Woolley, Les Ames, Colin Cowdrey... Lewis still speaks of them with the reverence of a schoolboy. Very occasionally, he will be asked, usually because he feels money is corrupting cricket values. He regrets that nowadays many county scorers do not play cricket professionally; he feels counties should give their former players the opportunity to score.

Lewis's first occasion as the Kent scorer was at Lord's. His colleague that day was Patsy Hendren who recalled that he had been Lewis's first victim in county cricket. One of Lewis's proudest possessions is a photograph of Hendren, signed and relating the incident: "It was typical of the spirit we played in."

This summer Lewis is negotiating the slippery spiral stairway to his civic and surviving the splinters in his desktop. It is his 29th summer as Kent scorer. He has set his own statistics, and they will not be easily beaten.

Champions hold tutorials for under-graduates

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Chris Evert and Jimmy Connors began their Wimbledon education in 1972 and graduated as champions in 1974. Yesterday they were back in the classroom in tutorial roles. Evert, though often uneasy, won 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, against Christine Singer, aged 19, and Connors beat Jason Stoltenberg, aged 18, by 7-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Evert has a bad heel that inhibited her preparation. Inevitably, she looked rather rusty; vulnerability so, Singer, no relation to the chap who invented the sewing machine, is a strong and hefty German from an area renowned for noodles and dough-wrapped mince. She is a gifted athlete, but would get around faster if she carried a little less luggage.

Singer is a good racket-handler, serves hard and volleys well, and has a nice touch with drop shots. She alternately teased and overpowered Evert in the second set but, in the third, had a rash of double-faults and lost 12 consecutive points. How prodigious the young can be. But Evert finished well. As horse folk put it, she needed the race.

Connors is a showman who knows how to play to his public. He is popular because he is a fighter and because he is a normal-looking chap roaming a land of much younger giants. There are few cheap points for a player like Connors. These days, too, the sight of Connors in action



makes all the over-30s feel like under-30s.

For a while, Stoltenberg reminded us of the other Jason, who led the heroic Argonauts in their quest for the Golden Fleece. But Connors was merely being firmly avuncular, biding his time and letting the lad have his fling. The tie-break and the rest of the match — much of it contested from the baseline, in defiance of Wimbledon conventions — told us who was boss.

We shall probably hear a lot more of Stoltenberg. He is an interesting chap, too. He grew up on his parents' cotton farm near a town called Wee Wee, which is a long way from Sydney and an even longer way from anywhere else on the map. Stoltenberg played his first tennis on a family court made of anthills and dirt, with a wire net and string lines.

Miloslav Mecir beat Alexander Volkov 6-2, 6-4, 6-4 in a match between two large and sleepy-looking men (combined height more than two fathoms). They began with five consecutive service breaks, playing 53 points in the process, before Mecir — back and brain evidently warmed up — took charge.

Edberg struggles

By Richard Evans

Stefan Edberg won the sort of match a contender for the title needs to win when he beat Richey Reneberg, an American of unfulfilled talent, 6-3, 7-6, 5-7, 6-2 on court two.

Whether Edberg won it with the kind of authority one would expect from a future champion is questionable, but then this stylish, classically moulded Swede will continue to have a question mark hanging over his head until he wins Wimbledon or, at the very least, the US Open.

Reneberg is a dangerous opponent because he has considerable natural ability and hits a very solid two-handed backhand.

Edberg kept getting in front and then allowed the odd wayward volley to put him back in trouble. He led 3-1 in the second set only to find himself facing three set points in the tie-break and he needed a series of superb backhand volleys to edge ahead and eventually clinch it 8-6.

Reneberg, who works with John Lloyd in Los Angeles between tournaments, pulled back from 1-3 down to win the third set but Edberg recovered in the fourth and eventually found the rhythm on his own returns to finish with the kind of flourish one expects from this majestic player.

Volkov comes from Kaliningrad; formerly Königsberg and Prussian, and famous as Immanuel Kant's birthplace. He is left-handed, looks like Henri Leconte, and plays with a similarly casual air — but in a lower gear. Last year he reached the last 16. So Mecir, who has a bad back, did well to dispose of him in straight sets.

This called for a chat with Mecir in a subterranean cell labelled "One-On-One Interviews", which is the kind of sign one might expect to find in a bogus massage parlour. The ambience was such that I felt like a prison visitor, particularly as we talked in the presence of a "warder".

Mecir, playing his first grand prix tournament since April, explained that a displaced disc had affected his right hip and leg. Now it was better but he was still doing remedial exercises. He felt no discomfort during a match and could move freely, but sometimes ached later. As a precaution, he was temporarily wearing corset-like strapping.

Anders Jarryd, seeded eleventh, was beaten, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3, 6-0, by Jim Grabb, of Tucson; desert, cactus, film-making, and bolo-tie country, and the only place where I have exchanged salutations with a Red Indian during a pre-breakfast jog. Grabb, aged 24, is a dark and lean 6ft 4in. He would look the part in any Western.

Grabb serves and volleys as if born to play on grass — and there is not much of that around Tucson. Yesterday he had a little luck, too. But Jarryd's main problems were that (a) he had only three break points after the first set; and (b) he was slightly deficient in his usual bouncing serve.

Martina Navratilova lost only six points in a run of six games against Elly Hakami, aged 18, from San Francisco, who hits two-fisted on both flanks. Pam Shriver, who has glacially slow but has been given the doctor's permission to play tennis, was far too good for Svetlana Parkhomenko, from Moscow.

On an outside court, Lisa O'Neill, a left-hander from Sydney, played one good set against Stephanie Rehe of California. O'Neill filled a gap in the draw, but looked a promising grass-court player. She is the daughter of the once renowned Jan Lehane.

Her second wish is that the inevitable public examination



Straight stretch: Connors on his way to victory over Jason Stoltenberg yesterday. (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Salmon leaps into third round

By David Powell

Julie Salmon, whose world ranking was too low to gain her direct entry into Wimbledon, is Britain's last survivor from 22 starters in this year's two singles championships. Salmon has won two matches which she was expected to lose, and has more than justified her wild-card entry which was granted at the recommendation of the national women's team manager, Sue Mappin.

Salmon, aged 22, from Brighton, followed up her victory over Elizabeth Smylie, of Australia, on Wednesday with a second-round victory over Adriana Villagran, from Argentina, yesterday. After playing an untidy first-set tie-break, which she lost 7-1, Salmon harnessed her game admirably to win 6-7, 6-1, 6-2.

In the third round, Salmon faces a formidable but not impenetrable Soviet fortress. She plays Larisa Savchenko, the No. 13 seed, and hopes that, for the first time in her career, she will be allocated court one or the centre court. "It's been my ambition since I first came to Wimbledon to watch," Salmon said.

Her second wish is that the inevitable public examination

she will have to endure as Britain's success of the championships might stir interest among the ranks of Brighton and Hove Albion footballers. Salmon's most satisfying sporting moment this year, until Wimbledon, was the club's promotion to the second division.

"I tried to get one of their shirts but couldn't," she said. She watches all the matches that her tennis schedule allows. "If any of them want a ticket to come and watch me play I'll get them one."

Salmon awoke from the nightmare of her tie-break by thumping herself with her racket. The mark on her right leg remained in evidence after the match. "I hit myself so hard because I was so furious — I played a real shocker," she said.

The transformation was extraordinary. Villagran failed to hold any of her next four service games and Salmon clinched the second set against the delivery with two backhand returns and two from the forehand to win the seventh

game from 40-15 down. The crucial game of the deciding set was the sixth. With Villagran trailing 2-3, 15-40 on her service, she tested the Briton's nerve by recovering to deuce. But Salmon broke to lead 4-2 when her opponent overhit a straightforward volley.

An exquisite running forehand pass offered Salmon her first match point, but her backhand return was too heavy and cleared the baseline. On her second match point, the Argentinian presented her with the match by netting a backhand.

Five other British players reached the second round but failed to progress. Jo Durie came closest, recovering from 0-3 in the final set against the American, Rosalyn Fairbank, to serve for the match at 5-4.

When Durie plays, the lead on her mind appears to weigh down her body. A cry of "come on Jo!" irked her. "I'm coming on," she protested. And, for 20 minutes when she realized that only a bold racket could save her, she did just that.

Fairbank was left stroking at air as Durie scrapped for everything. But, with victory in sight, the former world

No. 5 — now 72nd — seemed to realize she had everything to lose. And lose it she did. Fairbank won 6-2, 1-6, 7-5. It was the first time in six years that Durie had failed to reach the third round.

Over the same span, Esuko Inoue, of Japan, and Sara Gomer, from Torquay, have played 12 Wimbledon between them, but Inoue's progress to the third round yesterday was the first time that either had reached that stage. Gomer lost 6-4, 6-2.

Sarah Loosmore, at 17, is regarded as Britain's best young prospect. Following her on court 13, where she was beaten 6-1, 6-1 by Terry Phelps, an American, Natalia Zvereva advanced the theory that 17 is too old to be a prospect. The Soviet is already ranked eighth in the world and she moved comfortably through to the next round.

Jeremy Bates, having recovered from two sets down to overcome Christo van Rensburg in the first round, was beaten in the second after an encouraging start against the American, Bob Seguso. Seguso won 6-7, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4. Stephen Boldhead went down 6-2, 6-3, 6-4 to Simon Youl, of Australia.

Mastery of the greens puts Durnian ahead of the field

From Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, Chantilly

Denis Durnian conquered the game within a game — putting — to take the first-round lead in the Peugeot French Open with a 65, five under par, on the Chantilly course here yesterday.

It was an extraordinary effort during which Durnian had 11 single putts, with seven of them in excess of 20 feet, including one of fully 60 feet at the 17th. That enabled him to escape with par there and with it he moved into a one-stroke lead, ahead of Richard Boxall and Keith Waters.

More encouraging for Durnian was that he out-scored Curtis Strange, the new US Open champion, by five shots. Nick Faldo by six shots, Severiano Ballesteros by seven shots and Sandy Lyle, who had an eight at the 8th, by no less than 12 shots.

Durnian, a former PGA club professional champion, reverted to the tournament scene last season when he finished a credible 45th in the Order of Merit. This season Durnian, assisted by finishing fourth in both the Cannes and Italian Opens, is 24th.

He has in the past employed some unconventional methods to keep his game well honed. For instance, as a merchant seaman he would

Card of course					
Hole	453	463	473	483	493
1	391	4	11	429	4
2	175	2	12	389	4
3	382	3	13	373	4
4	436	4	14	217	3
5	216	3	15	418	4
6	436	4	16	211	3
7	579	5	17	409	4
8	482	4	18	361	4
Total 3,529		35	In 3,558		35
Total yardage: 7,087			Par: 70		

hit practice balls into the ocean off the deck of the ship. The clue behind his marvelous round on the greens is a putting aid with which he works for two hours each day.

"The head of the putter fits tightly into a metal device so that the only way to take it back is square to the target," he said. "It gets you into a grooved stroke."

Durnian, aged 38, first played on the Tour in 1971. He has never won, although he established a record for nine holes at Royal Birkdale in 1983 by taking 28 in the Open Championship, in which he eventually finished eighth.

Boxall is a more recent recruit to the circuit, although since he switched ranks in 1983 he has, by his own admission, not fulfilled the promise he showed as an

England international. "I thought it was going to be a lot easier out here," he said. "I also enjoyed myself a little too much and wasted a couple of years."

In the Spanish Open last month, Boxall produced an impressive performance to finish third behind Mark James. In fact, in 42 rounds this season prior to this tournament he has scored 151 birdies and four eagles to be fourth in the Equity and Law points table. He is likely to climb higher following an unlikely eagle two at the 5th in his 66, when he holed a 210-yard shot with a four-iron.

Once again, the subject of slow play became a talking point as rounds took in excess of five hours. The penal rough, knee-high in places, was partly to blame, but as Ballesteros pointed out, there is a need for officials to act soon before the situation gets completely out of hand. Strange added: "Slow play is a part of golf, but obsessive slow play has to be dealt with."

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Benn and Warren split up

Nigel Benn, perhaps the most exciting British boxer, last night ended his association with his manager, Frank Warren, just 48 hours before he was due to box Eddie Hall, of the United States, in Warren's promotion at Luton.

Benn, the unbeaten Commonwealth middle-weight champion from Ilford, has pulled out of the bout, part of the undercard for Barry McGuigan's world title eliminator, which was aimed at bringing Benn, all of whose 18 wins in his professional career have been inside the distance, to a vast American television audience.

Benn, aged 24, announced his decision through his solicitors only hours after Warren, who had only managed him since January, was denying rumours of a rift between the two men.

Warren claimed to know nothing of a rumour that Benn was thinking of moving to America to further his career. There had been a plan for Benn to make his United States debut in Las Vegas at the end of next month, but Warren stated that that had been dropped.

Benn was being lined up for the biggest pay-day of his career so far, against the British champion, Herol Graham.

Littlewoods raise doubts

The spectre of hooliganism has prompted Littlewoods to review the efficacy of their sponsorship of the former League Cup which is presently worth in excess of £3 million (Louise Taylor writes).

Prodip Guha, the company's marketing director, said last night: "The emphasis of the Littlewoods Cup is about family involvement. Anything that deters families from

watching football is therefore against our interests and will cause us to lose interest."

Littlewoods recognize that the violence which has tarnished the European championship finals in West Germany has left a sour taste in the mouths of many erstwhile supporters and could cause some to eschew football as a form of family entertainment.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Recovery by Walker

Graham Walker, Britain's former Admiral's Cup captain and leading 12-metre campaigner, returns home today, two weeks after being admitted to hospital after extensive head injuries in a car accident. He is under orders to rest for two months, which precludes him watching Crusader II in the world championship in Sweden or the Kenwood Cup off Hawaii in August.

Ageing well

Zurich (AP) — Helmut Wechselberger, an Austrian who turned professional only last year when 34, won the Tour of Switzerland cycling race which ended yesterday. Results, page 41



Scott: becoming coach

John Scott, the former England captain is to leave Cardiff after claiming he was blocked from gaining influence on the rugby union club's committee. Scott, the former captain, said he now planned to join Old Illydians, a junior side, as player-coach.

Charles show

Peter Charles dominated the show jumping at Lincoln. On Next Time, he notched his third consecutive win in the top score competition and then on Flying Wild won the Masons Jewellers Stakes. Phil Heffer (Viewpoint) surprised John Whitaker by winning the international trial.

Schwartz fall

Kevin Schwartz, of the United States, the surprise winner of two of this season's 500cc motor cycling grand prix, fractured his right foot in practice at Assen yesterday.

Caen swoop

Caen (Reuters) — Graham Rix, of Arsenal, and Brian Stein, of Luton Town, have signed for Caen, France's promoted first division side.

Air 'sat' Ge Tec £12

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